REPORT

BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY.

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1882-83.

Calcutta:
BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.
1884.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

CONTENTS.

SUMMARY.

	Page.
General Remarks	1
Tours of the Lieutenant-Governor in 1882-83	3
Census	5
Changes of Administration	6
Political	7
Surveys	9
Settlements	9
Government Estates	9
Wards' Estates	10
Course of Legislation	10
Police	12
Criminal Justice	15
Jails	16
Civil Justice	18
Registration	19
Municipal Administration	20
Marine	22
Meteorology	24
Economic Condition of the People	24
Agriculture and Horticulture	25
Forests	26
Manufactures	27
Trade	28
Public Works	31
Telegraph and Post Office	35
Revenue and Finance	36
Road and Public Works Cesses	38
Land Revenue	38
Customs	39
Opium	40
Salt	41
Excise	41
Stamps	43
License Tax	43
Registration of Vital Statistics	44
Emigration	45
Medical Relief	46
Sanitation	48
Vaccination	49
Education	50
Literature and the Press	52
Ecclesiastical	53
Stationery and Printing	53
Zoological Gardens	53
Economic Museum	54

BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY.

ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1882-83.

SUMMARY.

GENERAL REMARKS.

THE year to which the following Report relates coincides almost exactly with the first year of Mr. Rivers Thompson's administration of the Lower Provinces. It was also the first year during which the Provincial contract of 1882 has been in force; and it has witnessed the introduction or development of changes of such administrative and financial importance that it may fairly be said to open a new chapter in the history of Bengal.

The year was one of fair harvests and prices, but the outturn of the principal crops was not up to the high standard it had reached in the three previous years. The condition of the mass of the people was prosperous, and continued to afford satisfactory evidence of the material progress they are making under British rule. Nevertheless in some parts of the Province where the growing pressure of population on the soil has intensified the competition for land, it has become apparent that the present state of the land laws is beginning seriously to retard the normal advancement of the country. There have not, happily, been during the year any serious acts of agrarian violence in Bengal, but signs are not wanting that the relations between the landlords and their tenants are strained and unfriendly. On the one hand unscrupulous landholders have too often succeeded, sometimes by force and fraud, sometimes under cover of the processes of law, in exacting from the cultivators a higher rent than would permit the latter to live and thrive. On the other hand the agricultural classes have in some districts evinced a disposition to withhold even fair and reasonable rents, and to combine for the purpose of resisting their landlord in the exercise of his lawful rights. Believing that in this state of things there lay the seed of great evil and future danger to the State, Mr. Rivers Thompson has given his best support to the attempt that is now being made by the Imperial Legislature to place the law of tenancy in Bengal on a sounder basis. It is unnecessary in this place to describe the details of the measure which is now pending before the Legislative Council. Notwithstanding the attacks that have been made in influential quarters on the fundamental principles of the Bill, the Lieutenant-Governor believes that it will, if passed, remove a cause of much discontent and suffering in the present, and a source of great potential peril in the future.

The improvement in the condition of the masses was not retarded by any unusual accession of epidemic disease, although cholera was more prevalent than in the previous year, and fever again ravaged Nuddea and portions of the adjacent districts. The general course of trade showed growing activity, which was stimulated by the abolition of the Customs duties, and the reduction of the rates

of duty on salt. The terms of the new financial contract with the Imperial Government, which will be in force during the quinquennial period from 1882 to 1887 were comparatively unfavourable to the Local Government; and although the large balances which stood at the credit of the province at the beginning of the year rendered it unnecessary to make any very material immediate changes of policy, the reduction of the provincial resources has already made itself severely felt, and the Lieutenant-Governor has been compelled with great reluctance to contract the operations of the Public Works Department. The important scheme for the development of Municipal institutions was actively pushed on; but it was felt that as regards the larger scheme of local self-government in the districts in so advanced a province as Bengal it was unsafe to press forward legislation without securing the widest possible basis of detailed information, and the delay that occurred in obtaining the necessary reports from executive officers, and in communicating with the Government of India and the Secretary of State, rendered it impossible to pass the necessary measure through the Legislative Council within the year. The scheme which received the Lieutenant-Governor's approval provided for the formation of Union Committees, which deal with the local affairs of small aggregations of villages in the more advanced districts, and for the appointment of Local Boards, which have jurisdiction usually coincident with the limits of sub-divisions, and which are vested with powers for the control of Unions, and for the execution of such local works as are beyond the powers of the latter bodies. The subject however is still under consideration and the correspondence with the Government of India and the Secretary of State has not been completed.

A special feature of the present report is the standard, or red-letter chapters, which have been re-written or revised and incorporated with it under the orders of the Government of India. Ten years have now elapsed since these chapters were first prepared, during the term of office of Sir George Campbell; and during that relatively long period, many changes have passed over the face of the province.

It has not been thought necessary to reproduce on this occasion the chapter which was included in the Report for 1872-73 on the condition of the people. No such chapter was included in the scheme which has been prescribed by the Government of India; and while the Lieutenant-Governor is fully alive to the importance of the subject, he does not believe that the merely statistical information possessed by the Government of Bengal on this matter is of such extent or accuracy as to entitle it to permanent record. Without detailed and systematic enquiries, which, besides being of a somewhat inquisitorial nature, would require to be spread over a number of years, and could only be conducted at considerable expense, no results are likely to be secured of greater or more lasting value than are contained in the annual divisional reports, an abstract of which is incorporated in the body of the Report. The chapter on the census will be found to contain a mass of useful information which has been compiled from the interesting report on the census of 1881 prepared by Mr. J. A. Bourdillon. It was hoped that the present Report would have been accompanied by maps of the Province illustrating the working of each of the different Departments. The maps however have not yet been received from the Surveyor General.

In September 1882 proposals were submitted to the Government of Bengal by M. Jules Joubert for the holding of an International Exhibition

in Calcutta during the cold weather of 1883-84. With the approval of the Government of India these proposals were eventually accepted, and during the last three months of the year the arrangements were taken in hand and rapidly pushed forward. The necessary buildings were constructed on the maidan and on the site of the old Bengal Secretariat Offices, and were nearly completed by the close of the year. The history of the International Exhibition itself and of its results falls within the year now current.

TOURS OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR IN 1882-83.

During the rainy season the Lieutenant-Governor made an extensive tour through the Eastern Districts of Bengal, starting from Calcutta on the 2nd August and returning to Darjeeling in the middle of September. He travelled by river on board the *Rhotas* to Khulna, Perozepur, Barisal, Dacca, Munshigunge, Naraingunge, Mymensing, Jamalpore, Serajgunge, Furidpore, Pubna, Rampore Beauleah, Jungipore, Murshidabad, Berhampore and Kristnaghar, and afterwards went by land to Bogra, Rungpore and Kuch Behar.

The principal subjects which occupied His Honor's attention at the various places which he visited were first, the improvement of inter-district communications both by rail and river; and second, the best means of introducing the scheme of Local Self-Government. In regard to the latter question public opinion was gauged by conferences at which the leading native gentlemen of the place were invited to be present, and the outcome of these deliberations was found of great service in the preparation of the subsequent measures for carrying out the scheme.

While passing through the Sunderbuns orders were given for the improvement of certain parts of the steamer route where the abrupt curves of the main channel rendered navigation difficult or insecure. The cost of these works was estimated at Rs. 32,000. At Khulna the site selected for the public buildings of the newly-constituted civil station was inspected, and a site was also chosen for the terminus of the Bengal Central Railway, which branches off from the Eastern Bengal Railway at Ranaghat, and runs through Bongong and Jessore to Khulna. At Barisal orders were issued for the survey of a telegraphic line to connect Barisal with Khulna, for the construction of which local subscriptions had been promised; and the establishment of a steamer service between Khulna and Barisal also received consideration. This last-named scheme has since the close of the year been taken up as a private enterprise.

At Dacca His Honor remained five days, and inspected all the numerous public institutions of the place. He sanctioned the restoration of the Mitford Hospital at a cost of Rs. 4,000, and fixed on a site for the terminal station of the Dacca and Mymensing Railway.

Mr. Rivers Thompson also paid a visit to the rising port of Naraingunge, where he found much to call for the attention of Government. Situated near the junction of the Luckhia and Duluserai rivers, Naraingunge possesses many advantages for trade, and promises to become in course of time an emporium of great importance. A strong opinion prevails among the local community interested in the progress of Naraingunge that the Megna, into which the Luckhia river runs, might be made navigable for ships of large burthen. It is said that a channel of more than 20 feet in depth already exists all the way to the sea, but this channel has never been properly surveyed, and consequently only vessels of light draught at present carry the trade from the eastern districts *viâ* Naraingunge

to Chittagong, to be reshipped there in sea-going vessels for Europe. This detour and the break of bulk which it involves are a source of great difficulty, delay and expense, and are highly detrimental to the interests of Naraingunge and the local merchants. If the Megna is really navigable by a broad and safe channel, Naraingunge, it is contended, would supersede Chittagong, and a marine survey of the river is urgently pressed. At present the trade of the port is principally with Chittagong and Madras, jute being exported to the former and rice to the latter place. Much stress has also been laid upon the necessity for the survey of the Megna, on the ground that the Dacca and Mymensing Railway is to extend to Naraingunge. This line, which will probably be opened for traffic in the course of 1884, will effect a large and certain development of trade in Eastern Bengal, of which Naraingunge naturally wishes to secure its fair share. The Lieutenant-Governor inspected the site chosen for the terminal railway station, and examined the works which are in progress for converting a very dirty town into a habitable station. A commodious dâk bungalow had just been completed, the lines of the new civil station had been marked out, and projects for several roads were sanctioned. In two years Naraingunge should have a new face. At Mymensing a site for the railway station was chosen. There is little doubt of the eventual extension of this line of Railway to Jamalpore.

At Serajgunge the question of improved water communications is one which at present occupies the attention of all who have mercantile interests in the place. The European merchants are naturally much interested in the matter, as they have invested a large amount of capital in the jute trade. With the object of placing their views before the Lieutenant-Governor they sent a deputation on board the *Rhotas*, where the matter was fully discussed and arrangements made for detailed surveys of the locality which have since been undertaken. The question of a tramway from Serajgunge to the river bank was also mooted, but an improvement of the river channel presented the best solution of the difficulties.

At Rampur Beauleah His Honor laid the foundation stone of the new Rajshahye College, an institution principally indebted for its support to the generosity of private individuals.

Early in November His Honor visited Bankipur, where he invested Syud Lutf Ali Khan with the insignia of a C.I.E., and then went to Gya. From Gya he returned to Bankipur, where he held a Durbar and conferred on Syud Wilayet Ali Khan, C.I.E., the title of Nawab. The rest of His Honor's tour extended to Buxar, Arrah, Chuprah and Bhagulpore. At the last-named place the Lieutenant-Governor presided at the ceremony of turning the first sod of the new water-works.

At a durbar held on the 1st December at Belvedere His Honor invested Maharajah Jotendro Mohan Tagore with the title and insignia of a Knight Commander of the Star of India. Leaving Calcutta again on 22nd January, the Lieutenant-Governor visited Mozufferpore, Motihari, Bettiah, Durbhungah and Burdwan. He opened the new extension of the Tirhoot State Railway from Motihari to Mozufferpore and from Durbhunga to Jhinjharpore.

On the 27th March 1883, immediately before the close of the year, the Lieutenant-Governor visited Moorshedabad, *en route* for Darjeeling, and the opportunity was taken to present Nawab Ali Kadr, the head of the Moorshedabad Nizamut family, with the sanad conferring on him the title of Nawab Bahadur

of Moorshedabad. The title, which is hereditary but is confined to the lineal heirs male of the Nawab, has been declared to give the holder precedence over all other titled noblemen in the Lower Provinces.

CENSUS.

It was stated in the report for last year that the report on the Bengal Census of 1881, the preparation of which had proved a heavier task than was anticipated, had not then reached the Government, and that a full account of the operations must therefore be postponed for the time being. The report was submitted in the course of the year under review, and a general account of it will be found in the chapter dealing with the subject in the permanent section attached to the present report. Since the census of 1871 was taken, the province of Assam, which at that time formed a part of Bengal, has been formed into a separate administration; and several other minor changes of jurisdiction have also occurred. After making allowance for these changes, it appears from the returns that the population of the provinces subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has increased during the last nine years from 62,705,718, to 69,536,861. The increase has therefore amounted to 6,881,143 or 10·89 per cent. The total population in 1881 was composed of 34,625,591 males and 34,911,270 females, the excess of the latter being 285,679; and nothing is more remarkable than the growth of this excess, which in 1872 was only 22,986. The apparent rate of increase has varied enormously in different parts of the province, and it is clear that a portion of it is due to more accurate enumeration, and the inclusion of tracts of country which seem to have escaped notice in 1872. The average density of the population of the entire Province is 371·41 persons to the square mile, and this also varies very much in different districts. In Howrah, the average density of the village population, exclusive of the numerous municipalities of that district, reaches the high figure of 1,130. This is exceeded in the Moonsheegunge sub-division in Dacca, where the density is 1,278 persons to the square mile. The total urban population of the province was only 36,64,229, and there are only 96 towns with a population exceeding 100,000 souls. On the other hand there were as many as 264,523 villages each containing less than 5,000 inhabitants. These figures illustrate the remarkable paucity of large towns in Bengal.

In the tables that deal with religious belief, the population of the Province is divided into Hindus, Sikhs, Mohamedans, Christians, Buddhists, Brahmos, Jains, Jews, Parsees, and "All Others." There were 45,452,806 Hindus, 21,704,724 Mohamedans, and 128,135 Christians. Those persons who did not fall under any of the nine principal religions and were shown under the head of "All Others," were classified in a subsidiary table and divided into Sontals (883,938), Kols (613,863), Other Western Aborigines (469,622), Eastern Aborigines (88,399) and Others and Unspecified (35,404). Since 1872, the Hindus have increased at the rate of 13·64 per cent., the Mohamedans by 10·96 per cent., Christians by 40·71 per cent., and Buddhists by 93·29 per cent. In the case of the last-named sect however, the increase, which was almost wholly confined to the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and Darjeeling, is for the most part due to more accurate enumeration. The increase among Christians is remarkable, and is attributable partly to immigration from Europe and partly to conversions from heathendom, especially in the districts of Chota Nagpore.

The tables which show the conjugal condition of the people are of especial interest, and much light will, it is hoped, be thrown upon many important sociological questions by the facts which they disclose. The percentages of the single, the married, and the widowed, to the total population of each sex are among males 46·71, 49·30, and 3·98 respectively, and among females 29·71, 49·00, and 21·27 respectively. These figures are in marked contrast to the corresponding percentages in European countries. Many interesting facts are also to be learnt from the Census tables regarding the ages at which marriage is usually contracted in this country. Out of every 100 boys below the age of ten years, rather less than four are married; while the number of married girls of the same age is 11. From 10 to 20 years of age, 71 boys in 100 are still bachelors; while out of 100 girls of the same age, 76 are married and 4 are widows, only 19 being still unmarried. Practically it may be said that almost the whole female population is transferred from the single to the married state before their 20th year.

There are 65 castes or tribes in Bengal which claim more than 100,000 members each. The most important, numerically speaking, are the Gowallas, including Ahirs, Gops and Gours, with 3,992,949 members: the Brahmans, with 2,754,100, and the Kaibarthas with 2,100,379. Ten other castes, the Koches, Chandals, Kayasths, Rajpoots, Chamars, Telis, Kurmies, Koeris, Dosadhs, and Babhans each claim more than one million members. The statistics relating to the occupations of the people are said to be of comparatively little value, in consequence partly of the inaccuracy of the entries made by the enumerators in the original census schedules, and partly to the inconvenient and unsuitable system of classification. The population has been broadly divided into six main classes, Professional, Domestic, Commercial, Agricultural, Industrial, and Indefinite and Non-productive, but the details are not reliable. Information has also been given concerning the degree of education, the age, birthplace, mother-tongue, and physical and mental infirmities of the population. The Census Report is a work of great interest, and will certainly prove of much practical value in the administration of the country.

CHANGES OF ADMINISTRATION.

There were no changes of administration of any material importance during the year. The Local Self-Government scheme to which reference has already been made has not yet been actually introduced, and such account of its detailed provisions as is required has already been given. The superior grades of the Opium Department were reorganized with the view of encouraging a healthy flow of promotion among the officers of the department. A grade of probationers was also added in order to obviate the necessity of constantly throwing officiating assistants out of employment on the return of senior men from leave or deputation. The Contagious Diseases Act XIV of 1868 was, at the instance of the Secretary of State and the Government of India, wholly withdrawn from the town of Calcutta from the 15th March 1883, as an experimental measure. It had previously been confined to the southern portion of the town, where it was being worked avowedly in the interests of the European sailors and the garrison of Fort William. This arrangement was found to have broken down as a practical measure of protection, and it was felt that the position which had been arrived at was logically indefensible and could not be longer maintained. The two lock hospitals have however been retained as voluntary institutions for the

cure of persons who present themselves for treatment of their own accord. A Burial Board was established during the year for the better management of the chief cemeteries in Calcutta the control of which has been transferred to them. An important scheme has been prepared which provides that admission to the Subordinate Executive Service shall in future be by competitive examination. It was however thought necessary to give considerable notice to the public before actually enforcing this scheme, and it will not therefore be brought into force until the beginning of 1884.

POLITICAL.

Cooch Behar.

The management of the Cooch Behar State continued to be satisfactory. The total revenue of the year amounted to Rs. 13,31,663 and the expenditure to Rs. 12,36,380, the surplus being little short of a lakh of rupees. The receipts from excise and stamps increased, though not to the full extent which may be reasonably expected, and the other sources of revenue also showed a healthy elasticity. The receipts under land revenue fell off slightly, but the decline has been satisfactorily explained. It was only apparent, and should not recur. The agricultural results of the year were not altogether favourable. The jute crop was very abundant, but owing to the fall in price the cultivators did not obtain the large returns which had been expected. The jute industry has of late years enormously developed in Cooch Behar. The crop is well suited to the soil, the climate, and the genius of the people; and the industry has clearly a great future before it. The number of civil suits instituted during the year, and the number of documents presented for registration again showed an increase over the figures of the preceding year, and afforded a further illustration of the continued progress in the material prosperity of the people. Since the close of the year, the Maharaja has attained his majority, and has been formally installed as ruler of the State. The improvements that have been effected in every branch of the administration during his long minority have been of the greatest benefit to the State, and not the least important among them is the excellent education and training which the Maharaja himself has received. He brings to the discharge of his important duties, enlightenment, education, and a true sense of the responsibilities of his position, and there is every reason to hope that his government will conduce to the well-being of the State and the prosperity of his people.

Chittagong Hill Tracts.

On the south-eastern frontier the relations of Government with the hill-tribes were satisfactory, and no disturbances of any kind occurred. There were at one time rumours that men belonging to the Mulienpui and Shindu tribes were moving about in the vicinity of the Opiphoon guard with a view to raiding. No raids however occurred. It is hoped that the assistance rendered to the Howlongs during the late scarcity will have the effect of restoring friendly relations between them and the British Government. Two of the leading chiefs of the tribe attended the Durbar at Rangamati, and have promised to use their influence to procure the restoration of the Lahawk captives. The supply of seed grain to the hill-men was generally successful, but some of the Thanglowas are reported to have used a portion of the grain supplied to them for the purpose of distilling liquor, and the consequence was of course a very poor crop. The Durbar, which was held on this occasion at Rangamati instead of Demagiri, was largely attended and

proved a success. It will be repeated during the current year. The importation of rubber into British territory has continued to decline, only 183 maunds having been brought in as compared with 222 maunds in 1881-82 and 906 maunds in 1880-81. There was an increase in the exportation of salt, and the growing preference which the Lushais are said to exhibit for manufactured cloths and cotton and woollen goods in lieu of their own home-made chuddars will probably lead to a development of trade in these commodities. These increasing wants appear to indicate an advance in civilization.

Hill Tipperah.

The civil suit which was brought by Kumar Nabadwip Chandra Deb against the Maharaja of Hill Tipperah for determination of his rank and also for maintenance was dismissed by the High Court on the ground of want of jurisdiction, it being held that the Maharaja is an independent Prince or ruling chief, to whom section 433 of the Code of Civil Procedure applies. This ruling is of great importance, as the Maharaja owns extensive estates in British India, and if he be held to be an independent Prince, difficulties may be expected to arise in connection with them. Proposals to remedy the inconvenience are under consideration. Since the close of the year under review the difficulties between the Maharaja and the Kumar are reported to have been amicably settled.

Some improvements were made in the internal administration of the State: and the favourable outturn of the food-grain crops, and the high prices prevailing for cotton materially benefited the people. The general condition of the State however continued to be extremely unsatisfactory. All the principal sources of revenue are farmed out, and corruption is said to be rife among the subordinate officers of the Durbar. The amount of crime is considerable, having in view the smallness of the population, and it does not appear to be diminishing, although the great bulk of the cases relate to petty offences. The state of education is not satisfactory; and the present system under which the Maharaja's estates in Tipperah are managed is said to be anything but what it should be.

Orissa Tributary States.

The relation of the Tributary States of Orissa also towards the Government came before the High Court in the course of the year, and it was decided by a Full Bench that they do not at present form a part of British India. This question, as also the position of the State of Hill Tipperah, has been referred to the Government of India. The Maharajah of Mohurbhunj, the largest of the Orissa Tributary Mehals, died in the course of the year, and his State has, in consequence of the minority of his successor, passed under the direct management of Government. The general condition of the Orissa Tributary States was good. The tribute was punctually paid, the revenues collected, and due provision made for the administrative and other wants of the people. The most important event of the year was the outbreak in the neighbouring State of Kalahandi in the Central Provinces. A very serious rising of the Khonds was fomented by interested persons in the early part of the year, and many lives were lost. Judicious arrangements however, and the despatch of a strong body of police prevented the disturbances from spreading from across the frontier into these provinces.

Chota Nagpore Tributary States.

The Tributary States of Chota Nagpore are comparatively unimportant, both in extent and in population. The Sirgoojah State, the largest of them, which had been under the direct management of the Commissioner, was made over to the Rajah on his

attaining his majority in June 1882. The administration of the new ruler was good on the whole, although disturbances have occurred since the close of the year. The history of the other States presents no special features, and does not call for further remark.

SURVEYS.

The only survey operations which were conducted by professional agency during the year were those in the Patna division in connection with the cadastral survey now being carried on in the districts of Ghazipore and Ballia in the North-Western Provinces. These operations were completed during the year, at a cost of Rs. 2,534. Non-professional parties were engaged in the districts of Midnapore, Pooree (Khorda) and Darjeeling, and on the dearahs of the Backergunge and Noakholly estuaries. All of these made good progress, and the last-named resulted in the discovery and assessment to revenue of considerable tracts of surplus lands. Fair progress was also made in demarcating the ghatwali holdings in the districts of Bankura and Manbhoom.

SETTLEMENTS.

The results of the settlement work done during 1882-83 included 260 original settlements, 1,023 re-settlements, and 56 summary settlements. The operations were on a less extended scale than in the previous year, and the net increase of revenue amounted to Rs. 71,472 or about 51 per cent. on the expenditure incurred. The most important work was done in the Dacca and Presidency divisions, in the latter of which special enquiries were instituted with a view to revise and improve the rules for assessing waste lands in the Sunderbuns. In Chittagong, defects have been discovered in the Noabad settlement, which was completed last year, and some revision of the work will unfortunately be required. In Orissa, where the ryots on the extensive Khorda estate had raised objections to the terms of the settlement which was recently concluded, the decision of the Government has had the effect of reconciling the malcontents to a great extent. A complete record-of-rights has been prepared in the fullest detail, and will it is hoped serve as an effectual safeguard against the evils that have occasionally prevailed in other estates elsewhere.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

The information afforded on the subject of Government estates in the body of the report has reference only to those estates (whether the property of the State or of private persons) which are under the direct management of the Government. A certain number of estates are let in farm, and of these no detailed account is given. Excluding the vast network of petty estates of which the Chittagong district is composed, there were 1,061 estates under direct management, with an annual rental of Rs. 26,27,360. The gross cost of management amounted to Rs. 1,81,889, which represents the very moderate percentage of 6·9 on the rental. The collections amounted to 108·8 per cent. on the current demand and to 70·7 per cent. on the gross demand including arrears. These results compare favourably with those of preceding years, and they have also been secured concurrently with the redress of some longstanding grievances.

It is satisfactory that the labours of the special officer who was deputed to undertake the management of the Jellamutha and Majnamutha estates in Midnapore have resulted in the establishment of more amicable relations between

the ryots and the representatives of Government; and it is hoped that there will be no recurrence of the difficulties which have in these estates of late years tended to throw discredit upon the system of direct management. In all the other divisions, the collections were satisfactory.

Under arrangements which had effect from the beginning of the year under review, a sum of 10 per cent. on collections is set apart; and from this, 7 per cent. is assigned to cover the ordinary expenses of management, the remainder being expended on communications, primary education, and miscellaneous improvements, in the proportions of 1½, 1, and ½ per cent. A proposal has recently been submitted for the establishment of an Agricultural Department, and it is now under the consideration of the Secretary of State. It will be of much service among other things in providing trained managers for Government estates. A reform here is much needed.

WARDS' ESTATES.

During the year, the Board of Revenue exercised control over 117 wards' and 91 attached estates, the total number having been reduced by ten since the previous year. The discretionary power which the present law allows to the Court of Wards of declining to accept the charge of an estate in certain cases was exercised with salutary effect. The gross receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 62,92,899, of which Rs. 52,73,981 represented the current demand of rent, and Rs. 3,46,057 that of cesses. The cost of management amounted to Rs. 5,63,405, and was therefore within the recognized limit of 10 per cent. In addition to the above, arrears of rent amounting to Rs. 40,56,283, and of cesses amounting to Rs. 3,62,483 came within the scope of the Board's operations. The collections of the former were at the rate of 97·3 per cent., and of the latter at the rate of 94·1 per cent. on the current demand. About 5½ lakhs of rent and cesses were also remitted, and the outstanding balances at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 36,68,716, and Rs. 3,58,980 respectively. The progress made in recovering and writing off arrears was scarcely so good as was expected, but active measures are now in progress, and it is hoped that the returns of the year now current will show a more substantial improvement in this direction. The debts due to Government, to superior landlords, and to general creditors were somewhat reduced, but not to the same extent as in the previous year. The sums spent on improvements amounted to Rs. 2,46,899 of which Rs. 1,23,593 was devoted to repairing and maintaining the immoveable property of the estates, and Rs. 72,576 to making landed improvements, such as the construction of embankments, channels and khals for irrigation purposes, the excavation of tanks and wells, the introduction of new staples, and the purchase of agricultural implements. The attention of the Board has been called to the necessity of making a systematic field survey of all wards' estates, together with a complete record of rights. There may be some difficulties in the way of carrying out such a measure, but the advantages it affords can scarcely be overrated, in the interests of the landowners no less than in that of the cultivators.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION.

The measures which received the attention of the Legislative Council during the session of 1882-83 were unusually numerous and important. Five

Acts were completely passed and have now become law. Two others were introduced and referred to Select Committees, but it was not found possible to carry them beyond the preliminary stages before the close of the session. Leave was also given to introduce another Bill, but it was not proceeded with, and is being dealt with during the current year.

The five measures which were completely passed were an Act (I of 1883) to amend the Bengal Excise Act, an Act (II of 1883) to amend the Calcutta Port Improvement Act, the Bengal Tramways Act, the Jute Warehouse and Fire Brigade Act, and the Act for the Registration and Control of Porters and Dandeewallas in the Darjeeling and Kurseong Municipalities. The first of these was described in the report for last year, and the second is of comparatively minor importance. The most important of the five was the Tramways Act, which was passed to enable the Government to sanction, and local authorities or private persons to undertake the construction and maintenance of tramways throughout the province. The new Act, which is an entirely new departure, so far as Bengal is concerned, prescribes the procedure to be adopted in obtaining sanction, the manner of construction of tramways, the powers and rights of the promoters in respect of the use of roads, the rules as to fares and traffic, the penalties for offences, and other general conditions. The Jute Warehouse and Fire Brigade Act consolidates the previous enactments on the subject and extends their application to Calcutta, the Suburbs, and Howrah. It also vests the entire control over the Fire Brigade in the Commissioner of Police, and lays down rules as to the levy and apportionment of fees to be devoted to the maintenance of an efficient brigade. The Hill Coolies Act was passed to check the misconduct and extortionate charges of the porters and dandywallahs in the municipality of Darjeeling and is now in operation.

The two most important measures that came before the Council during the session of 1882-83 were the Local Self-Government Bill and the new Municipal Bill. The former of these Bills provides for the creation of a machinery for the development of Local Self-Government. Union Committees were to be established for the management of village affairs. A group of unions was to constitute the circle of a Local Board, vested with certain executive powers and responsibilities and possessing a certain degree of financial independence. The general control of Local Boards, as well as of all municipalities throughout the province, was to be placed in the hands of a new authority denominated the Central Board, consisting of members appointed by Government. The Bill specified minutely the powers that were to be exercised by each of the local Government bodies so constituted, the duties that were to devolve upon them, the funds to be placed at their disposal, and their relations towards each other and towards the officers of Government. Since the close of the year, orders have been received from the Government of India which necessitate the abandonment of the Central Board. The matter is still the subject of correspondence between the local Government and the Government of India.

The Municipal Bill was mainly intended to consolidate and extend the existing law, and does not involve such broad questions of principle as are raised in the former Bill. The chief changes embodied in the original draft are the abolition of the distinction between municipalities of the first and second classes, stations and unions, the more general recognition of the principle of election, the admission of non-official chairmen, and the inclusion of fresh powers in respect of conservancy, sanitation, and water-supply.

The complete history of these two Bills falls within the course of the ensuing session.

POLICE.

Police in the interior.

The amalgamation of the municipal with the regular police, to which allusion was made in last year's report, was carried out during the year. This change was introduced with the object of relieving municipalities from a heavy source of expenditure over which they could not, in the nature of things, be allowed to exercise any control. It was no part of the scheme to effect thereby any improvement in the administration of the police force. As a matter of fact, it has had a contrary tendency. The men who belonged to the old municipal police were as a rule worse paid and worse disciplined than those of the regular force; their standard of education was lower, and their efficiency decidedly less. It has therefore not been a matter for surprise that their inclusion among the regular police should have occasioned an apparent deterioration of the whole force. Arrangements are, however, being made which will remedy this state of things. The additional cost to Government of the scheme was Rs. 4,97,000. The regular police system has now been introduced also into the Sonthal country, where it had been found that the people did not appreciate the motives of Government in allowing the police administration to be carried on through their head-men. The old village police have still been retained, but are now required to work in subordination to the regular police. The scheme, which was given a trial during 1881-82, for placing important outposts in charge of 5th grade Sub-Inspectors in place of Head Constables, was found to work so well that its general introduction was sanctioned, and is now being carried out. The report of the Commission which was appointed in the cold weather of 1882-83 to enquire into the working of the chowkidari, or village police, system, was submitted shortly after the close of the year, and is now under the consideration of Government. Pending the decision that may be come to, no material alterations have been made. Very considerable changes and improvements will probably be made when action is taken. The strength of the Frontier Police remained unchanged; but in consequence of rumoured raids considerable reinforcements were on two occasions sent to the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The scheme for the reorganization of the Railway Police was under consideration. Since the close of the year under review the orders of the Government of India upon the report of the Committee which was appointed to investigate the matter were received, and effect is now being given to them. The details have not yet been finally settled, but they will proceed upon the general principle that whilst the duties of watch and ward of the Railway premises and property shall devolve upon the Railway authorities, all the work connected with the maintenance of law and order, and the detection of crime at stations and on the line shall attach to a specially organized Government Railway Police, distinct from the regular district police of the country. The number of casualties in the entire force during the year was 3,949, or 15·8 per cent. of the whole. In the previous year the number had been only 2,222, or 11·25 per cent. The increase was due to the cause to which allusion has been made above, viz., the amalgamation of the municipal with the regular police. This amalgamation tended to increase the percentages of desertions, resignations, and discharges, in consequence of the harder work which service in large towns entails. The death-rate of the force was 2·4 per cent., against 2 per cent. in the

previous year. This rate exceeds the average death-rate (2·04) of the entire population of the province during the year. The excess was probably for the most part only apparent, being due to the fact that the registration of deaths among the ordinary population is still exceedingly imperfect, while among the police it is of course complete. The number of punishments was above that awarded in the previous year. The proportion of judicial convictions, however, was less, both under the Penal Code and under Act V of 1867. The police were implicated in four cases of torture during the year, in three of which the offenders were convicted and punished judicially. Rupees 11,786 was distributed as good-conduct allowances; and at the close of the year, 8,146 men wore good-conduct stripes, as compared with 7,238 at the close of 1881.

A successful attempt was made to reclaim and settle a tribe known as Mughya Domes whose nomadic and thievish habits had long rendered them a source of trouble to the police. A number of them were induced to consent to settle down in two places which were selected for them. Lands were procured from the local proprietors, huts were erected, and a Government grant was made to provide the new settlers with cattle, ploughs, and agricultural implements. Some of the head-men were also appointed village chowkidars, with the approval of the villagers. By the close of the year, the numbers living at the two settlements had increased to 340, and there has been every sign so far that the scheme has been successful. It is hoped that the whole tribe may be reclaimed to peaceful pursuits.

Crime.

Judged by the number of cases reported, there was some increase of crime in the year under review, the figures being 108,980 in 1882 against 104,153 in 1881. In reality however there was a merely nominal increase in offences against property; minor offences against the person, and local nuisance cases being mainly responsible for the increase shown. There has been a real decrease of upwards of 10,000 cases among offences against property since 1879, which represents a substantial and satisfactory diminution of this class of crime. The effective surveillance that is now exercised by the police over bad characters, and the exemplary punishment of habitual offenders have combined with the generally prosperous condition of the people to bring about this satisfactory improvement. The number of cases declared to be false was 7,753, or 7·1 per cent. of the whole. This percentage was practically the same as in the previous year. Criminal prosecutions were instituted in 1,442 of these cases, but convictions were obtained in only 491 cases, in which 523 persons were punished. Under the new Code of Criminal Procedure, simple hurt is a non-cognizable offence, charges of which are no longer enquired into by the police of their own motion. These cases have always constituted a large proportion of the number of cases not enquired into, and the percentage of the latter should therefore be greatly reduced in future. The number of cases actually enquired into by the police during the year was 88,445, and the percentage of convictions was 47·7 against 46·6 in 1881, and 46 in 1880. During 1882, 103,678 persons in all were arrested, of whom 100,888 were brought before a court, and 96,769 were actually tried; 64,372 persons were convicted, giving a percentage of 62·1 on the number arrested and of 66·5 on the number tried. The results of cases committed to the sessions were unsatisfactory. Not only was the numb convictions low, but the percentage of convictions on the number tried r than in any of the six preceding years, being only 59·1 against 61·7.

Which was y decrease in provinces durin

As regards the nature of crime during the year, as measured by the true cases only, there was a decrease of serious offences against the person, and also of serious offences against the person and property or against property only, while there was an increase, more or less, among all other classes of offences. Cases of rioting were considerably more common, especially in the districts of Eastern Bengal, where the uncertainty that prevailed concerning the future of the Rent Laws led in some cases to combinations among the cultivators to resist by force attempts to collect any rent at all. There was a small increase among cases of dacoity; but 13 districts were wholly free from this crime, and even where it nominally exists, it has entirely lost its former character of organized gang robbery. There was a decrease of 448 among cases of house-breaking, but this class of offence is still very common in Bengal, and the proportion of convictions has always been lamentably low.

Calcutta Police.

The number of cases cognizable by the police and of non-cognizable cases reported in Calcutta and the Suburbs during 1882 decreased largely in 1882, being only 39,838 against 47,272 in the previous year, and 42,161 in the year before. The decline was due to the smaller number of prosecutions instituted under miscellaneous laws, such as the Municipal Acts, the Contagious Diseases Act, the Port Acts, the Stamp Act, the Stage-carriage Act, the Railway Acts, the Excise Acts, and the Gambling Act. There was on the other hand an increase of 642 cognizable and 658 non-cognizable offences under the Penal Code, which fell principally under the headings of "Serious offences against the person and property or against property only," "Minor offences against the person," "Minor offences against property," "Rioting," "Mischief," and "Public nuisance." The total number of persons who were arrested or who appeared on the issue of a summons was 40,470, as compared with 47,119 in 1881; and of these 33,044, or 81·65 per cent., were convicted as against 38,713 or 82·16 per cent., convicted during the preceding year. There was some increase in the number of cases declared to be false, and the percentage of false to true cases rose from 1·12 to 2·07. In 79 of these cases, prosecutions were instituted against the complainants, who were imprisoned in two cases, fined in 71 cases, and warned and discharged in the remainder. Cases of murder increased from two in 1881 to seven in the year under review. In three cases the defendants were convicted, in two they committed suicide before trial, in one case the evidence was not considered by the jury sufficient to support a conviction, and in the remaining case, which was remarkable on account of the absence of any apparent cause or motive for the deed, no trace of the murderer has been found. The action of the police with regard to cases of theft, house-breaking, and burglary was less satisfactory than in the previous year. Not only was there an increase in the total number of true cases of these offences, but the percentage of convictions was less, and the value of property recovered proportionately lower. These results are attributed to the increased commercial activity of the year, and the larger number of ships in port. The value of property stolen was Rs. 1,11,836, of which Rs. 63,989, or 57·21 per cent. was recovered. The total cost of the Calcutta Town Police was Rs. 4,23,896, of which Rs. 2,80,805 was paid by the Municipality and the remainder by Government. Government also contributed Rs. 83,695 towards the cost of the Suburban Police, the Municipality paying Rs. 70,048. In both cases the sums in consequence on account of fees and fines were credited to Government. The cost of the River Police was Rs. 29,778, of which Rs. 22,334 was

death-rate of the

paid by the Port Commissioners, the remainder being charged to the public revenues.

There was a slight revival in the trade of Calcutta in arms and ammunition, the number of firearms imported during 1882 being 656, against 492 in the previous year. The weapons included 201 sporting rifles, 196 sporting guns, and 259 pistols and revolvers. The number of persons killed by wild animals during 1882 was 1,267, while those killed by snakes numbered 9,191. Both of these figures are below those of the previous year. Of those killed, 7,508 were adults and 2,950 children. The number of cattle reported to have been killed by wild animals throughout the province during the year was 8,560, which was almost the same as in the previous year. The number of wild animals destroyed was 5,867, as against 4,213 in 1881, and the number of poisonous snakes rose from 19,282 to 32,187. The increase was general throughout the province, but was greatest in the Patna Division, where the plan of paying rewards through the agency and on the certificates of selected planters is reported to have worked well. The total amount paid as rewards for the destruction of wild animals and venomous snakes was Rs. 32,453-14 against Rs. 25,746-8 in the previous year.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

The High Court in the exercise of its original jurisdiction dealt with 180 persons, or 12 less than in the previous year. Of these 120 were convicted, and 39 acquitted or discharged. The number of criminal appeals dealt with was 2,332, out of which the sentences were reversed in 427 cases and modified in 120 cases. In 1,545 cases the appeal was rejected or the sentence confirmed. The number of persons brought to trial before courts other than the High Court was 217,338, which was almost the same as in the previous year. There was an increase in the number (183,680) of persons dealt with by Magistrates of all kinds in the interior, and a decrease of almost equal amount among the persons tried by the Magistrates, both Stipendiary and Honorary, at the Presidency. Of 3,348 persons dealt with by Sessions Courts, 97 were committed or referred to the High Court, 1,212 were discharged or acquitted, 1,625 were convicted, 27 died, escaped or were transferred, and 387 remained under trial at the close of the year. The number of appeals to the Sessions Courts was 6,115, against 5,982 in 1881. In the cases of 2,033 persons the sentence was modified or reversed; it was confirmed or the appeal rejected in 3,661 cases, and enhanced in only 27 cases. Of the persons tried by Magistrates in the interior, 112,994 were convicted and 3,167 committed to the Court of Session or the High Court; 62,030 were acquitted or discharged, and 5,102 were still under trial at the close of the year. The remainder either died, escaped or were transferred—23,154 persons were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, and 4,276 to imprisonment accompanied with fine; 80,600 to fine only, and the remainder to miscellaneous punishments. There were 29 sentences of detention in a Reformatory School. There was a further decline in the number of persons whipped under judicial orders, the number of whippings inflicted being only 1,604, against 2,425, 2,919, 4,086, and 4,739 in 1881, 1880, 1879, and 1878 respectively. This form of punishment is regarded as degrading by the mass of the people, and frequent recourse to it is not supported by public opinion in this country. It is satisfactory to find that full effect has been given to the injunctions of Government that it should be only sparingly used.

The number of witnesses examined was 406,475, which was slightly in excess of the figures for 1881. There has been a steady decrease in the average jail population of prisoners of all classes in these provinces during the past seven

ars. The daily average convict population has been gradually falling since 76, the daily average in that year being 20,227 as compared with 14;801 in 82. The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted into jail during the ır was 3,439 or 10·84 per cent. of the total number of convictions, showing onsiderable reduction on the figures for the previous year.

JAILS.

The jail policy of the Bengal Government remained unchanged during the ɹ under review. The measures of reform that have been inaugurated from e to time during the past five years were maintained and, where opportunity ɹred, extended; and have been productive of the best effects. The policy ler which prisoners sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding two years ɔngth, are transferred as far as possible to central jails was steadily enforced, has done much to promote economy as well as the health and good discipline ɔhe jail population. The best results are reported to have ensued from the eral adoption of the mark system, whereby prisoners whose conduct is 'ormly good are enabled to earn the remission of a portion of their sentences; 'an analogous system has also been introduced by which life-convicts, whose ıces were not of such a kind as to render them permanently dangerous to ɜty, are encouraged to hope for release after they have completed twenty 's of their sentence. Three prisoners were released in accordance with this ɜm during the past year.

The jail population of the province has continued steadily to decrease during ɔast seven years, the daily average number of prisoners in each year since having been 20,227, 17,527, 17,274, 17,258, 16,673, 15,506 and 14,801. gradual decrease is attributable to the better administration of justice, the efficient preventive action of the police, and the general diminution of ɜ consequent on a continued succession of good harvests. The number of 'cts admitted direct amounted to 31,710, which was slightly in advance of dmissions during 1881. Notwithstanding this, however, the daily average ıed, in consequence of the larger number of convicts sentenced to short of imprisonment. Of the 14,801 convicts who formed the average daily ation, 52·10 per cent. were confined in central jails, 46·01 per cent. in ɔt jails, and 1·89 per cent. in subsidiary jails and lock-ups. The increase in rst-named percentage was due to the policy under which long-term convicts moved as much as possible to central jails, thereby leaving a considerable ıt of space available in the district jails to meet sudden emergencies which arise from an increase of the total jail population, or to satisfy any ements on account of transfer in the case of severe outbreaks of sickness. number of juvenile convicts in jail on the 31st December 1882 was ɜd to 84, the opening of a reformatory school during the year at Hazari- having taken off a number of boys from Behar. Five hundred and ɜn convicts only were transported during the year, against 666 in 1881. eduction was due to the more careful supervision which is now exercised 'Medical Board in Calcutta. Capital punishment was inflicted in 35 cases ; 59 and 73 respectively in the two previous years. The total number of ɹrial prisoners during 1882 was 27,996, of whom 13,024 were convicted, were released, and 2,145 transferred, 50 died, and 4 escaped. The ɜ period of detention was 14·82 days, which was slightly in excess of responding period last year. The number of civil prisoners continued

to rise, having been 3,403 in 1882, against 3,016, 2,749, and 2,665 in the three preceding years.

During the last two years rapid progress has been made with the scheme which was promoted by Sir Ashley Eden for providing the province with a complete equipment of suitable jails. Many important central and district jails have been constructed; others are now in progress and are in a fair way towards completion; and the list of works that are still required to place the Jail Department in a thoroughly satisfactory position is a small one. The expenditure by the Public Works Department on this account was Rs. 7,38,263 in 1881, and Rs. 10,10,781 in the past year. Works of an important character were in progress in the jails of Rungpore, Chumparun, Durbhunga, Julpigoree, Furreedpore, Mozufferpore, Gya, Pubna, Bhagulpore, Backergunge, Ranchi, Mymensingh and Dacca, and many of these have now been completed. The daily average of prisoners employed on jail buildings during the year was 3,538 against 4,108 in 1881. The increased expenditure during the year under review was due to the free use of paid labour.

The system of warder guards has continued to work well, and the Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned the substitution of warders for policemen in the reserve guards of all the jails in the province. This change has been productive of some economy and has also conduced to greater efficiency. The number of escapes declined to a notable extent, there being only 20 against 37 in the previous year. The best results continued to be obtained from the employment of convict warders and overseers, and a further extension of this system is in contemplation. The general state of discipline was good, although there was a small increase in the proportion of offences to daily average jail population. Criminal offences numbered only 76, and the great bulk of the remainder consisted of petty breaches of jail rules, short work, &c. A large number of minor offences of this kind must always be expected, and their actual number is of little consequence so long as a large proportion of them is detected by the vigilance of the jail staff. No punishments were ever inflicted except under the personal orders of the Superintendent. The number of corporal punishments was only 416, against 914 in 1881, and 4,735 in 1880. This penalty is now strictly reserved for the graver classes of offences; the power of inflicting it can scarcely be entirely withheld from the jail authorities, having regard to the strength of the jail population, and the number of incorrigible prisoners which it must contain. The place of whipping has been successfully taken by other punishments, such as solitary confinement, both with and without reduced diet, penal labour, &c. There was, however, a reduction of nearly 50 per cent. in the number of prisoners punished by reduced diet.

Notwithstanding the falling off in the daily average jail population, there was an increase in the expenditure of the department, which amounted to Rs. 10,36,212, against Rs. 9,82,107 in the preceding year. These figures are exclusive of the expenditure on jail buildings by the Public Works Department. The increase was in part due to the rise in price of the principal articles of consumption, and also in part to the fact that medical officers exercised in many jails the discretion vested in them of giving animal food, and of varying the diet in other ways when the health of the prisoners rendered this desirable. The average cost of each prisoner confined in the central and district jails was Rs. 58-8-7 against Rs. 52-12-9 in the preceding year, and the average expenditure on diet was Rs. 19-4-10 per man against Rs. 17-12-5. There was a considerable increase in the cost of superintendence, which was due to the new arrangements for the management of the Presidency Jail. This important

jail was formerly in charge of one of the Surgeons attached to the General Hospital, but it was considered undesirable to continue this arrangement, and a separate Superintendent was appointed in the course of the year under review. The total profits of the Department from jail manufactures, &c., were Rs. 4,62,019, against Rs. 5,25,969. The gross credits amounted to Rs. 21,39,008, and the outgoings to Rs. 16,76,989. The decline in profits was due partly to the fact that an unusually large number of jails were under construction or repairs during the year, and partly to the reluctance of the department to accept contracts in consequence of the uncertainty which existed in connection with the future of jail manufactures. This uncertainty has not yet been removed.

Judged by the number of admissions into hospital, the year cannot be regarded as a healthy one. The daily average sick amounted to 849, or 5·33 on the average total jail population, which was a higher figure than in any year since 1866. The death-rate from all causes was 6·81 per cent., which exceeded the rates of the two previous years, the average rate being 6·15. In point of mortality therefore the year was not much above the average. One cause of the increase in the number of admissions to hospital is to be found in the system of fortnightly weighments, which caused failing health to be more speedily detected. The most common diseases were fever, and its sequelæ dysentery, diarrhœa, anœmia and general debility. The structural improvements that have been effected at great expense in the mass of the jails of the province, and the care that is everywhere taken to provide them with pure drinking water, wholesome food, and good drainage, have done much to raise the general sanitary condition of the jail population, and no relaxation of the efforts of Government was permitted during the year under review.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

High Court.

The number of original cases for disposal by the High Court was considerably less than in either of the two previous years, but on the other hand there was a very large falling off in the number disposed of, the proportion of suits disposed of to the total number before the court being only 44·80 per cent., against 56·42 in 1881 and 48·97 in 1880. There was also a considerable increase in the number of cases pending at the close of the year. These unsatisfactory results were due to the numerical weakness of the court during 1882 as compared with the previous year, when two Additional Judges were appointed for six months as a temporary measure. The sanction of the Secretary of State has now been accorded to the scheme, to which allusion was made in the report for last year, for the establishment of Appellate Benches. For the present it is intended to establish only four Benches at Patna, Burdwan, Dacca, and the 24-Pergunnahs, each consisting of a Covenanted officer and a member of the Subordinate Judicial Service, and it is hoped that by this means the appellate work of the High Court will be materially reduced, and a larger proportion of the Judges' time thus made available for the disposal of original civil suits. Some improvement was apparent in the progress made by the court in the disposal of its appellate work. The number of appeals and applications of all kinds disposed of was 7,369 against 6,847 in the previous year. The number of pending cases also fell from 4,072 to 3,583. The number of suits instituted in the

Calcutta Small Cause Court.

Calcutta Court of Small Causes continued to decline, being only 29,553 against 34,108 and 35,304 in the two previous years. The bulk of the decrease was in suits of less than Rs. 50 in value which amounted to 4,269 cases out of a total falling off of 4,555. On

the other hand there was an increase of 79 in suits exceeding Rs. 1,000 in value. There is reason to fear that the decrease in the number of suits of small value is due to the change of procedure entailed by the new Act, which has increased the cost and trouble of bringing suits in the court, and has therefore discouraged recourse to litigation except when the subject matter is of substantial value. Of the total number of cases for disposal, 29,329 were actually disposed of. Of these, 4,397 cases were decided in favour of the plaintiff after trial or reference to arbitration, and 8,141 *ex parte* or on confession: 11,040 were compromised, 1,641 were non-suited, and 4,110 dismissed, withdrawn, or rejected in default of plaintiff. The percentage of cases given in favour of the plaintiff was 80·3. The total number of original civil suits of all kinds instituted before the various courts in the interior was 431,710, in addition to which there were 96,833 suits pending from the previous year. Of these, 431,710 were disposed of during the year. Suits for money, as usual, formed a large proportion of the whole, the percentage being 44·235. Rent suits gave an even higher proportion (45·586), while suits for immoveable property gave a percentage of 5·986. Of the whole number of original civil suits instituted during the year, 88,492 were below Rs. 10 in value; 205,242 below Rs. 50; 65,615 below Rs. 100; and 48,446 below Rs. 500. There were 21 suits whose value exceeded a lakh of rupees. The number of appeals of all kinds which came up for decision, including those pending from the previous year, was 59,579, of which 52,385 were in courts in the interior, and 7,194 in courts at the Presidency, including the High Court. Only 29,420 appeals were disposed of, leaving the enormous number of 30,159 suits pending at the close of the year. These figures show that no ordinary appeal can hope to be disposed of in less than a year's time from the date of institution. This result is very far from satisfactory. The scheme for training the younger covenanted officers for the judicial branch of the service by vesting them with civil powers was still on its trial throughout the year, but it has occasioned a greater amount of inconvenience than is at all commensurate with the advantages to be expected from it, and it will probably have to be largely modified before long.

Courts in the interior.

REGISTRATION.

There was a revival of activity in the operations of the Registration Department during 1882-83, the number of registrations having increased from 537,084 to 555,141, or by 18,057. This increase represents a percentage of 3·36 on the total number. The increase was almost entirely confined to the registration of documents relating to immoveable property, and was much greater under the head of optional than under that of compulsory registrations. The registrations of instruments of sales, &c. of immoveable property of value less than Rs. 100 rose from 86,244 to 89,269, and those of instruments of mortgage relating to the same class of property rose from 42,655 to 46,084. There was a further decline in the registrations of perpetual leases, though not to such an extent as in the previous year. The increase in the number of registrations of term leases for periods exceeding one year was also maintained, but at a comparatively slow rate. Throughout the country generally, the system of perpetual leases, so far as can be ascertained from the operations of the Registration Department, appears to be decreasing slowly but steadily, and it is not easy to determine the exact cause. It is safe to infer that landlords are generally averse to parting with their interest in the land, and that as a rule these leases are only granted by needy or embarrassed proprietors. Both zemindars and cultivators alike are

becoming alive to the bad effects of sub-infeudation, and the latter are unwilling to bind themselves down to the payment of a fixed rent which deprives them of the concessions they usually obtain for contingencies of season. The principal cause, however, most probably is that neither landlord nor tenant is willing to bind himself in perpetuity by any agreement so long as there is any uncertainty as to the final form which the rent laws will take. The increase among optional registrations was general throughout Bengal and Behar, and is ascribable to the growing appreciation by the people of the advantages secured by registration. The number of money bonds registered during the year fell off by 3,957. The decline was almost wholly confined to the district of Jessore, there having been an increase in 30 districts of the province. The number of such documents registered in Jessore has always been enormously in excess of that returned from any other district, and there is reason to believe that there has hitherto been some misconception in the minds of the people as to the requirements of the law in respect of bonds. If this is so, a further decrease will be the almost certain result of their becoming acquainted with the correct facts.

The gross receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 9,48,104 as compared with Rs. 9,11,920 in the previous year, while the expenditure simultaneously declined from Rs. 4,98,514 to Rs. 4,95,180. The net surplus was therefore Rs. 4,52,924 against Rs. 4,13,406. Four rural sub-registry offices in which the work done was small were closed during the year, and two new ones were opened, the total number of offices open at the close of the year being thus raised from 285 to 287. There was a slight increase in the number of marriages registered under the Mahomedan Marriage Registration Act, but it cannot be said that there were any signs that the Act is beginning to be adequately appreciated or resorted to by the people. The causes of failure are not accurately known, but it is hoped that when the Mahomedan Committee which is now sitting in Calcutta shall have completed their labours, their report will indicate measures which will make the Act more popular.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION.

Calcutta.

The third general election of Commissioners for the Corporation of Calcutta was held in September 1882 under the Calcutta Municipal Act IV (B.C.) of 1876. A marked increase of public interest was displayed on this occasion, and the contest for seats was in several of the wards remarkably keen. The gross number of votes recorded was greater by upwards of 80 per cent. than the number recorded at the last election, held in 1879, and it has now become clear that the substantial powers that are wielded by the Commissioners and the responsibility under which they have been placed have invested the office with real dignity and importance, and that it is much coveted among the intelligent classes of the native community. The recent election has also elicited another very important and satisfactory fact. Of the 48 Commissioners who held office prior to September 1882, twenty-two were re-elected, and twenty-six were either not candidates or were rejected by the constituencies; and it appears that while of the former all but four were conspicuous for their industry and attention to municipal work, as judged by the number of meetings attended, only four of the latter seem to have given any considerable portion of their time to their duties as Commissioners. These facts indicate that the conduct of the members of the Corporation is keenly scrutinized by the public of Calcutta.

The work done by the Corporation and the questions that occupied its attention during the year were unusually varied and important. A number of structural improvements in the streets of the town were effected, the funds set aside for this purpose being largely supplemented by the sale proceeds of waste lands belonging to the Corporation which were not required for municipal purposes. Great activity was shown by the Special Committee appointed to deal with the reclamation of bustees. Extensive schemes were prepared which in the aggregate will have the effect of placing 300 acres of bustee-covered land in a proper sanitary condition, and several of these were carried into execution during the year. The details of the schemes also were designed with great foresight and with the fullest possible consideration for the residents of the bustees, with the result that in many cases the owners have voluntarily surrendered the necessary land free of cost, recouping themselves by the enhanced value of the remainder. Some progress was also made in tank filling, though at a less rapid rate than was hoped for; and arrangements have been made for the erection of a number of masonry bathing-platforms, provided with standpipes and a supply of filtered water. The negociations between the Corporation and the Suburban Municipality regarding the extension of the water-supply were brought to a successful conclusion, and the engines for the new works as well as the 48-inch iron main by which the water will be brought to the town have been ordered from England. It is hoped that this important work, on the carrying out of which all the chief sanitary improvements of the town depend, will be completed by the end of 1884. Much attention was paid to the sanitary condition of Calcutta during the year, and an important memorial on the subject, numerously and influentially signed, was presented to the Lieutenant-Governor in January 1883. The history of this memorial properly belongs to the current year, but generally speaking, it may be said that if the Municipal Commissioners have succeeded in clearing themselves from the charge of negligence and apathy, it is abundantly apparent that very much yet remains to be done before the sanitary condition of Calcutta can be regarded as worthy of its position as the capital of India.

The municipal finances continued to be managed with the same economy and ability that have marked the financial administration of the Corporation since 1879. The receipts of the general fund during the 15 months from the 1st January 1882 to the 31st March 1883 amounted to Rs. 24,19,221, and the expenditure to Rs. 23,12,368. The Corporation raised a loan of Rs. 9,50,500 during the year, and its net indebtedness was raised from Rs. 1,24,02,270 to Rs. 1,28,83,378. This amount is practically identical with the debt due on the 1st January 1880, although there has been heavy expenditure on capital account during the three years that have elapsed since then. The water-rate and lighting funds were in sound equilibrium, and the ordinary revenue of the municipality has continued to display a healthy elasticity.

Municipalities in the interior.

The number of first class municipalities in the interior was raised from 26 to 27, and that of second class municipalities reduced from 99 to 97. The town of Narainganje was raised to the position of a first class, and the union of Sitamurhi to that of a second class municipality: municipal institutions were withdrawn from the towns of Kalaroah and Kaligunge, and from the four unions of Jehanabad, Chand, Chynpore, and the cantonment of Berhampore. The total population of the province, outside Calcutta, under some form of Municipal Government, was 2,986,197, and these were represented by 2,286 Municipal Commissioners, of whom 1,706 were non-officials. The aggregate municipal

income amounted to Rs. 26,19,478, and the expenditure to Rs. 24,48,153. The elective principle was not introduced into any additional municipalities during the year, and is now in force in three towns only, Burdwan, Krishnaghur and Serampore. A property qualification both for voters and candidates was introduced in the last-named municipality, but it has proved very unpopular, and its abolition has been recommended.

MARINE.

Pilot service.

The pilot service continued to give satisfaction. The strength of the service was increased by one during the year, and now stands at 62 qualified pilots, not including leadsmen apprentices. During the year the branch pilots piloted on an average 5·23 vessels a month, the masters 4, and the mates 3, these averages being such as to afford ample remuneration to each grade and to leave no room for complaint. The mercantile community has benefited considerably from the reduction of pilotage dues by 15 per cent., which was brought into force on the 1st August 1882. The amount thus remitted during the year under review was Rs. 1,53,878.

Shipping, &c.

The number of vessels visiting the port of Calcutta was 1,151, with a gross tonnage of 1,982,187 tons, and the number of departures was 1,141, with a gross tonnage of 1,979,107 tons. There was thus an increase of 160 vessels and of 379,205 tons over the previous year. The number of casualties was materially greater than in 1881-82, and the amount of damage done was also more severe. There were 51 groundings and 25 collisions, against 33 groundings and 12 collisions in the preceding year. Two of the former were serious, one of them resulting in the total loss of the vessel. Of the collisions, seven were attended with no damage, thirteen with damage, and one with serious damage; in one case an inland steamer, in another a steam tug, and in two cases boats were sunk. Two marine courts to enquire into the conduct of pilots were held during the year, besides five special courts under Act IV of 1875, and departmental and other investigations. The most important casualty of the year was the wreck of the barque *Mohusser* on Saugor Sand on the 1st May 1882 with the loss of 36 lives, including 25 passengers. The barque *Aberdeenshire* and the inland steamer *Goalpara* were also lost in the Sunderbuns, and the inland steamer *Oude* was sunk by colliding with two vessels off Garden Reach. In two cases only were judicial punishments inflicted on pilots. The number of vessels inspected by the Port Health Officer was 1,367, and the average number of European seamen in the port was 1,792, as compared with 1,350 in the previous year. There was a marked increase both in the number of admissions to hospital, and in the number of deaths, over the figures of the previous year, but even now, the total mortality is not excessive in proportion to the population of the port. Cholera was present in an unusually large degree, and accounted for 41 deaths out of a total of 94. Bowel-complaints were also very prevalent. The year 1882 was a bad one for cholera throughout the neighbourhood of Calcutta, and it is remarkable that the death-rate from cholera of the entire floating population, European and native, which was numbered at 25,630 in the census of 1881, was considerably less than that of the population of Calcutta who drink the filtered water supplied by the municipality. The number of seamen of all nationalities shipped and discharged during the year was 16,225 and 15,039 respectively, showing in both cases a fair increase over the figures of the previous year. Desertions, however, were more numerous, and it is intended to take steps to prosecute the

men, and especially those by whom they are instigated, after the vessels have left the port.

Port Trust.

The work done by the Port Commissioners continued to maintain its high character, and efficiently provided for the requirements of the mercantile public. At the beginning of the year the Port Trust debt amounted to Rs. 79,27,830. During the year, Rs. 12,25,000 was borrowed, and certain payments were made to the sinking fund, so that at the close of the year the net indebtedness of the Port Commissioners stood at Rs. 90,57,967. Against this they have assets which are estimated at Rs. 1,47,28,018. Their financial position is thus thoroughly solvent. The total receipts on capital account, inclusive of a balance of Rs. 6,53,199 from the previous year were Rs. 39,25,042, and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 29,09,862, leaving a balance of Rs. 10,15,180. The revenue accounts showed a total income of Rs. 31,82,162, inclusive of a balance of Rs. 6,71,018 at the commencement of the year, against a total expenditure of Rs. 27,45,523, a sum of Rs. 4,36,639 being thus left in hand at the end of the year. The jetty receipts amounted to Rs. 7,58,283, which exceeds those of any previous year except 1877-78, when unusual activity prevailed in the grain trade in consequence of the famine in Madras. This increase has been obtained in spite of the reduction in the landing charges on piece-goods and cotton twist. The receipts at the inland vessels' wharves also were higher than in any year except 1877-78. Much activity was shown in all the minor departments under the control of the Port Commissioners, and valuable work has been done in facilitating the navigation of the river and the port approaches, and in removing difficulties in the way of the sea-going trade of the capital. The port approaches, which, as mentioned in last year's report, have now been made over to the Port Commissioners, were worked at a heavy loss, in consequence of the reduction of the rates of port-dues from three annas to one anna per ton. The total expenditure on this account was Rs. 4,86,369, while the direct receipts fell short of a lakh of rupees. The balance was made up by contributions from Port Trust revenues. The advantages to the mercantile public of a low rate of dues are so great as to outweigh the additional expenditure which is temporarily thrown upon the Port Commissioners, but which will, it is hoped, disappear with the development of trade. An important Committee, including members of the Port Commission and of the Chamber of Commerce, sat during the year to consider the best means of extending the accommodation of the port so as to meet the great increase in its shipping and trade. The Committee decided adversely to the proposal for the construction of docks at Diamond Harbour, and advocated the undertaking of works in the neighbourhood of Hastings and Kidderpore. The question is of the highest importance and the recommendations of this Government have since the close of the year been submitted to the Government of India.

Other ports.

There was again a large increase in the trade of the port of Chittagong, and it is clear that all that is now required to confirm the position of that emporium as the main outlet for the produce of Eastern Bengal is the opening of the projected railway to Chandpore in Tipperah, with subsequent extension to Assam. The advance made during the past year was due to the great expansion of the jute trade with the United Kingdom and Spain, the number of vessels which cleared with this cargo having been more than double that in the previous year. A considerable amount of treasure was also received from Mauritius and other places for the purchase of grain for export. The total exports

of grain however fell off in consequence of the stoppage of the demand from Ceylon. Considerable improvements were made in the arrangements of the port, but much more will have to be done before it can adequately provide for the growth of trade and shipping which is making itself manifest year by year. There was a decline from 1,344 to 1,154 in the number of vessels visiting the Orissa ports during the year. The falling off, which was confined to Balasore, was due to the decrease in the number of coasting sailing vessels calling at that port, owing to the decreased importation of coal for the coast canal works. The total tonnage however increased by 39,271 tons, and the total value of imports and exports rose from Rs. 1,28,41,810 to Rs. 1,32,00,974. The exports of rice increased considerably, the quantity despatched to home and foreign ports being 1,681,760 cwt., valued at Rs. 37,71,385, against 962,978 cwt., valued at Rs. 22,50,615 in the previous year. In imports there was an increase under the heads of cotton twist and metals.

METEOROLOGY.

The meteorological history of the year presented no unusual features. One additional third class observatory was opened at Tura in the Garo Hills in March 1883, but its operations belong to the history of the year now current. The improved system of storm-signals referred to in the report for 1881-82, by which warning is given not only of the approach of severe cyclones attended by storm-waves such as those of 1864 and 1867, but also of the existence of the smaller cyclonic storms of limited extent and intensity, was brought into operation, and has proved of considerable value. The daily weather reports continued to be published in the same form as formerly, and a small increase is reported in the number of subscribers. A fair amount of work was done in the department of marine meteorology. The observations taken on board vessels navigating the Indian seas, which are collected by the Board of Trade, were examined and collected, and charts were prepared from them embodying the information they afford as to the pressure, winds, currents, &c., in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. Steps were also taken to collect current meteorological data for the Bay from all available sources, especially from the masters of vessels repairing to the river and port of Calcutta. These investigations have promised to yield valuable results. The atmospheric pressure of the year showed considerable variations, the causes of which are not known. It was generally in excess during the first six months of the year, and in deficiency during the remainder. The variations were most marked, during both periods of the year, in South-Eastern Bengal. The temperature was generally normal. The mean temperature of the year was slightly in excess in those districts in which the south-west monsoon rainfall was deficient, and below the average in the areas of excessive rainfall, which included Orissa, the Presidency Division, and the Darjeeling Hills. The humidity corresponded generally to the larger meteorological features of the year and the distribution of rainfall. The rains were generally in excess during February, and the monsoon also broke earlier than usual. The total recorded fall of the year was in excess in the Chittagong, Orissa and Cooch Behar circles, it was normal in the Presidency Division, and more or less in deficiency throughout the remainder of the province.

ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

The rainfall of the year was, as stated above, generally below the average, and was moreover unequally distributed, both as to season and as to place. The

result was a decrease in the outturn of the winter or principal harvest, and in some places a decline in the spring and autumn crops also. The large stocks of food-grains that had accumulated during the abundant seasons of 1879-80 and 1880-81 had been somewhat reduced in 1881-82, and were largely broken in upon during the year under review. A general rise, of moderate amount, in the prices of rice, wheat and pulses took place all over the province. Notwithstanding this however, the deficiency was relative rather than absolute, and was nowhere so accentuated as to interfere with consumption. The comparative failure of the crops, which was not counterbalanced by the stocks of previous years being brought into the market, caused a rise in the value of field produce, which fully recouped the agricultural labouring classes for the diminished outturn, while the extensive public works that were in progress in many parts of the province intensified the demand for labour, and enabled the poorer classes to exact higher rates of remuneration. In Eastern Bengal the wages even of unskilled labour were never below four to six annas a day, and frequently rose to eight and even ten annas. The condition of the mass of the people in these districts is reported to be not only absolutely good, but rapidly improving. The only part of the province where the standard of living is said to be unduly low is Behar, where the density of the population and the improvident habits of the people combine with the conditions of soil and climate to intensify the struggle for existence. Even here, however, improvements are rapidly making way, and the reports from every district of the Patna Division show that the people year by year have more money to spend on marriage ceremonies, good clothes and ornaments, and luxuries generally. Throughout the province the only class whose condition does not appear to be improving is that formed by the educated and semi-educated scions of the higher castes. These men, who are turned out in ever increasing numbers by the English schools and colleges, find that they have no longer a monopoly of the Government service, and they have not yet learned to apply themselves to other pursuits. With this exception, the condition of the people at large has continued to exhibit healthy signs of improvement, though at a less rapid rate than in the five years immediately preceding.

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE.

The improvements which have for some years been in progress in the Botanical Gardens at Howrah have now been completed. The whole of the grounds have been raised in level, sheets of ornamental water have been made, driving roads have been cut through all parts of the gardens, and a number of fine buildings of the most approved design have been erected. The gardens are now a handsome and valuable addition to the metropolis, and their usefulness both for the advancement of horticultural science and for the furtherance of popular education has been greatly enhanced. The utilization of fibrous plants continued to receive close attention. A new machine of French invention for clearing rhea and other fibres was given a trial, and has given high promise of success. The negociations with Messrs. Schoene Kilburn, to which reference was made in the report for last year, have unfortunately fallen through, in consequence of the firm having transferred their operations to another locality where labour is scarce. Further attempts will be made to give the plantain fibre a practical trial. The result of the experiments which have been going on for the last two years for the introduction of carob cultivation into Bengal were made known in 1882-83. It has been found that the

humid districts of the Gangetic delta and of Northern and Eastern Bengal are unsuited for the plant, which, however, promises to do well in the drier climate of Behar, Chota Nagpore and Orissa. The experiments which were made during the year under review in the rearing of silkworms in the Rajshahye Central Jail have had a very limited degree of success, and it has become clear that the univoltine variety finds no favour with the native cultivators. With a view to arrest the decline of the local silk industry, it is proposed to hold an exhibition of cocoons, &c., at Berhampore in January 1884.

FORESTS.

The additions made to the area under the control of the Forest Department during the year were comparatively small. Some 60,087 acres were added, and 4,900 acres which had been previously afforested were relinquished. At the close of the year therefore the area over which the operations of the department extended had been raised to 2,766,288 acres, or 4,322 square miles. Since the close of the year several fresh tracts have been included in the reserved area: and extensive further additions are contemplated in the Kolhan and in Porahat in the Singbhoom district. These figures do not include large areas of protected forest in Khorda, nor the open forests in Julpigoree and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Protected forests, it should be remembered, are not forests in the strict sense of the term, and the operations which are conducted in them are not, and are not intended to be, sufficient for the purposes of reproduction.

The special measures which were taken for the protection of the reserved forests against fire were successful in most of the divisions. In Kurseong, Buxa, and Julpigoree however fires occurred. In the last-named division they were especially disastrous, and extended over nearly 30,000 acres out of a total of 98,202. Throughout the province, protective measures were applied to 387,628 acres, and failure occurred in 39,172 acres, or 9 per cent. of the total area against 7·5 per cent. in the previous year.

The total number of trees felled during 1882-83 was 167,257, of which 3,764 were sâl, and 2,723 various hill trees, the remainder being other varieties of plains trees. By far the greatest part of the trees was felled by permit-holders, chiefly in the Sunderbuns divisions, which alone yielded 17,816,230 cubic feet of timber and fuel in this way. In all, the reserved forests under Government management yielded 6,752,507 cubic feet of timber, and 12,445,033 cubic feet of fuel in the course of the year. These figures represent an average outturn per square mile of 4,442 cubic feet of timber and fuel during the past year, against 4,167 cubic feet in 1881-82. The gross receipts of the department were Rs. 6,93,959, and the charges Rs. 3,82,184. The surplus was, therefore, Rs. 3,11,775, which is greater than the surplus yielded in any year since the department was established. The steady growth of the net revenue is one of the most satisfactory features of the administration of the department. During the last four years it has increased successively from Rs. 1,73,776 in 1879-80, to Rs. 2,25,959 in 1880-81, to Rs. 2,39,124 in 1881-82, and to Rs. 3,11,775 in the year under review. Under the present provincial contract, this surplus is equally divided between the Imperial and Local Governments.

MANUFACTURES.

Indigo.

The estimated outturn of the indigo crop was 1,37,800 maunds, being 5,000 maunds below the estimate of the previous year, and 12,000 maunds below he actual crop. The outturn was generally of a fair average quality, although the prices realized for the ordinary and common qualities of indigo were sensibly below the average. Certain superior kinds, however, realized full prices, and the average rate per maund was Rs. 223. The total quantity of indigo exported amounted to 99,715 maunds, valued at Rs. 3,02,35,399, of which 46,908 maunds were consigned to the United Kingdom, 24,834 maunds to the United States, and 14,437 maunds to France.

Tea.

The area under tea increased from 42,217 acres to 48,092, the number of separate gardens at the same time rising from 271 to 300. The season was decidedly favourable for tea, except in Chota Nagpore, both the total outturn and the average yield per acre of matured plants rising considerably. In Darjeeling, however, where the local planters, encouraged by the good prices obtained in 1881-82, had unduly stimulated production, the result was a fall in prices which rendered the season less remunerative than the preceding one. Labour was abundant both in Darjeeling and Julpigoree, but considerable damage was as usual done by the green-fly and the mosquito blight, for which no remedy has yet been discovered.

In Chittagong the season was unusually favourable, the showers having been well distributed and the breaks of sunshine abundant. Prices however were low, in consequence of the glutted state of the market. In Chota Nagpore where the spring rains partially failed, the labour difficulty is now beginning to be felt, and it is apparent that if emigration from these districts continues to anything like its present extent, the future of the tea industry will become precarious.

The total approximate yield of the Province was 11,170,564 pounds, of which nearly ten millions came from Darjeeling and Julpigoree, and the bulk of the remainder from Lohardugga. The average outturn in pounds per acre of matured plants was in Darjeeling 302, Julpigoree 399, Chittagong 322, and Lohardugga 170.

Cinchona.

The management of the cinchona plantations and factory continued to be satisfactory. A number of the Calisaya and hybrid varieties of the cinchona plant, which were found to possess bark of poor quality, were uprooted in the ordinary rotation, and were replaced by richer kinds. The plantations were extended to the trans-Teesta portion of Darjeeling, and in the new garden thus formed a large number of quinine-yielding seedlings was planted out. The crop of the year amounted to 396,980 pounds of dry bark, and was the largest ever harvested on the plantations. At the request of the Secretary of State, 41,800 pounds of selected red and yellow barks were sent to London for experimental conversion into various forms of febrifuge. The remainder was made over to the factory.

The shaving process, to which allusion was made last year, was again applied, and an analysis of the renewed bark has now been obtained. The experiment has been remarkably successful, but it seems uncertain whether it can be advantageously applied on a large scale except in countries where the red-bark trees are perfectly at home.

The febrifuge was turned out at the remarkably low rate of Rs. 8-8-0 per pound, owing to the comparatively large percentage of the alkaloids (2·73) extracted from the bark used in manufacture. The issues however were considerably below those of 1881-82, mainly in consequence of the smaller quantity taken by the Medical Depôt Calcutta. The issues to the public were nearly up to those of the previous year.

The expenditure on the plantations amounted to Rs. 80,739, and the revenue from the sale of febrifuge, seed plants, and bark to Rs. 1,52,807. The net profit was upwards of Rs. 66,000, which represents a dividend of 6½ per cent. on the capital outlay. The saving also which was obtained by the substitution of the febrifuge for sulphate of quinine in the Government institutions was Rs. 3,32,340. The gardens and factory thus continue to maintain their high value to Government. Attempts are being made to improve the methods of manufacture, and so to extract a large proportion of the valuable alkaloids from the bark.

The manufactures and mines of the various divisions of the province are described in the body of the report.

TRADE.

Sea-borne trade.

The total value of the sea-borne trade of Bengal, exclusive of Government transactions, showed an advance of upwards of two and a half crores of rupees over that of 1881-82, and exceeded in value that of any year since 1877-78. The imports increased in value by upwards of a crore, and the exports by about a crore and a half. The greater part of the improvement in the imports took place in the foreign trade, the value of which rose from Rs. 22,36,31,980 to Rs. 23,41,84,301 or by more than 105 lakhs; the value of the coasting trade on the other hand rising by only 3 lakhs. The exports to Indian ports, however, contributed the greater part of the improvement in the total value of the export trade, being valued at Rs. 8,03,34,716 against Rs. 6,65,54,182 in the previous year. The total value of the entire trade, export and import, was Rs. 70,81,27,136. The great bulk of the foreign trade of the province was, as in former years, concentrated in Calcutta. In the trade of that port, there was an increase of Rs. 1,05,69,601, or 4·7 per cent. in imports, and a small net decrease in exports of something less than 12 lakhs. The total value of the imports amounted to Rs. 23,39,17,864, and of the exports to Rs. 33,40,63,753, against Rs. 22,33,48,263, and Rs. 33,52,61,114 respectively. The decline in the export trade of the year was wholly confined to articles of Indian merchandize, and represented but a very small percentage on the total trade of the year. Of the increase in imports, 68¼ lakhs was merchandize, and 37½ lakhs treasure. The staples which showed the largest increase were coloured cotton piece-goods, metals—chiefly iron and copper—kerosine oil, and machinery; while a considerable decrease occurred in woollen piece-goods, twist and yarn, and gray and white cotton piece-goods.

The trade with the United Kingdom, which, as usual, formed more than three-fifths of the entire trade of the port, advanced by 77 lakhs, the increase being chiefly in exports of jute, rice, linseed, rapeseed, hides, silk piece-goods, and sugar, and in imports of coloured cotton piece-goods, machinery and metals. The China trade declined by 20 lakhs, which included reductions in the imports of treasure and the exports of opium. The development in the trade in kerosine oil, which belongs almost

wholly to the United States, raised the value of the imports from America by 26 lakhs, while the corresponding exports rose by 49½ lakhs, principally in indigo, raw jute, gunny, hides, and tea. The trade between Calcutta and the Australian Colonies has steadily improved during the past four years. During the year under review there was a further advance of 43½ lakhs in the value of this trade, which was principally due to increased imports of copper and increased exports of gunny bags and tea. No less than 2¾ millions of pounds of Indian tea were despatched to Australian markets, as against one million pounds in the previous year. The International Exhibition now being held should do much to stimulate this trade, which is of so much value to both countries. The trade with the Straits Settlements, France, the Mauritius and Austria fell off slightly, and that with Ceylon and Italy showed a trifling improvement. The bulk of the foreign trade of Calcutta was, as in former years, carried through the Suez Canal, the proportion which the trade carried by this route bears to the total trade being 58·6 per cent.

The imports of cotton twist and yarn fell off by more than one million pounds valued at about 13 lakhs of rupees, while piece-goods and other cotton manufactures also declined slightly. This is mainly attributable to the large stocks in the hands of dealers at the beginning of the year. The trade has since revived. There was a marked improvement in the imports of metals, especially of copper and iron, the value of the latter being 30 per cent. in advance of that of the previous year, notwithstanding a fall in price. In liquors there was a slight advance, the falling off in the imports of English beer and brandy being more than compensated for by the increase of light German beer and whiskey. The trade in kerosine oil, as already mentioned, showed very great activity, more than doubling itself during the year. The imports from the United States of America rose from 211,516 gallons to no less than 12,189,679 gallons, and the demand is rapidly increasing. There was a large increase in the imports of manufactured tobacco, the consignments being chiefly of the inferior qualities. A steady fall has taken place in the imports of manilla cigars, which can only be accounted for by the increased consumption of cigars made from Indian tobacco. The imports of China tea fell off by over 50 per cent., chiefly in consequence of the large importations of 1881-82, but partly also in consequence of the low prevailing prices of Indian tea, which enabled it to compete successfully with the imported article.

The jute crop was unusually abundant, and the export trade in this staple was therefore extremely active. The exports of the raw fibre rose to 9,191,884 cwts. or by about 33⅓ per cent., the increase being shared by the United Kingdom, Austria, the United States, Australia, Spain and Germany. Gunny bags also were exported in very large numbers to the United States, Hong-Kong and Australia. The exports of rice, in consequence of the favourable crops and the low prevailing prices, were greatly stimulated, and reached the highest figure ever recorded. The shipments to the United Kingdom showed the remarkable advance of 55½ per cent., while those to France rose from 48,055 cwts. to 533,898 cwts., owing, it is believed, to the grain having been largely used in the manufacture of brandy. The shipments of wheat fell off as compared with 1881-82, but were still much in advance of those of previous years. It is hoped that the extension of railway communications and the reduction of freights will do much towards developing this important branch of Indian trade. Tea and indigo were largely exported during 1882-83;

but the prices of both staples ranged so low that the values were not above the average. The efforts of the Tea Syndicate to open a larger trade in tea with the United States have given high promise of success, the exports to the States during the year having amounted to 671,264 lbs. against only 195,686 lbs. in the previous year. The export trade in sugar sprang into sudden activity in 1882-83, the shipments rising from 16,133 cwts. to 85,989 cwts., almost the whole of which was despatched to the United Kingdom. The total coasting trade of Calcutta amounted in value to Rs. 7,67,42,197, against Rs. 7,09,63,102 in the previous year. Of this amount Rs. 2,67,14,775 represented imports, and Rs. 5,00,27,422 exports, from and to other ports in India, both British and Foreign. The trade with Madras declined, but that with other British Indian ports continued to rise. The imports of cotton twist and yarn reached the highest figure ever recorded, and there is reason to think that so far as the inferior qualities are concerned, the Bombay manufacture has almost wholly superseded Lancashire twist in the Calcutta market. There was also an improvement in the dealings in rice, refined sugar, and gunny. The trade of Chittagong and the Orissa ports has already been noticed.

Inland Trade.

The system of registering the inland trade of the province which was in force in former years was not changed during 1882-83. This system does not profess to embrace exhaustively the whole of the commercial dealings that take place within the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal. The paucity of large towns and trading centres renders it a work of great difficulty to include within the scope of any system all the scattered transactions that go to swell the sum total of the trade of the province, and without a vast and incommensurate expenditure it would be impossible to do more than register the traffic along the more important routes. The Bengal system provides for the registration of all articles imported into or exported from the town and port of Calcutta, either by rail, or by sea, river, or canal. The trade of the rising ports of Chittagong and Naraingunge, which are at present unconnected with the railway system of the province, is registered in the same way, and also that of the three ports of Orissa, Balasore, Pooree, and Chandbally (including False Point). In addition to this registering stations have been established at which all traffic is recorded which passes along the Nuddea rivers, including the Bhagiruthee the Jellinghee and the Matabhanga, the Megna river in Eastern Bengal, the Midnapore and Hidgellee canals, and the Orissa canals. Arrangements have also been made in communication with the Administration of Assam for registering the traffic carried by the inland steamer services and by country boats along the Upper Megna and Brahmaputra rivers. A complete system of registering the rail-borne traffic of the Province was introduced from the beginning of the year now current, but during the year under review the same system was employed which was formerly in force, and which differs in some respects from that in force in other provinces. It will be seen that the general scheme of traffic registration in Bengal omits two classes of operations, viz., traffic from district to district within the province, and road-borne traffic passing to large trade centres other than Calcutta. The latter class, it is believed, is not very extensive. The aggregate value of the former class must be considerable, but it is impossible to intercept it completely except at a prohibitive cost.

The value of the entire Calcutta trade during 1882-83 was 76½ crores of rupees, of which 49½ crores represented the value of imports, and 27 crores the

value of the exports. The imports exceeded those of 1881-82 by upwards of three crores, but there was a decrease of 81 lakhs in the exports. The principal staples in which the decline occurred were raw cotton, cotton twist and yarn, and food-grains. There was also some decrease in both imports and exports of cotton piece-goods and unrefined sugar. All the other chief staples showed a greater or less increase. The export trade in raw cotton has been in a great measure diverted from Calcutta to Bombay. The cause of the contraction of operations in food-grains was chiefly due to the rise in prices which was very general during the year. This was especially marked in the case of wheat, which alone covered the whole of the net falling off. Rice and paddy on the other hand showed a fair degree of improvement. Dealings in jute were exceedingly active, the increase in the value of the raw fibre imported being as much as 22·87 per cent. There was also an even larger advance in the importation of made-up gunny-bags and cloth. The future of this industry promises well, but it is threatened by growing competition with American growers. Hides, salt, saltpetre, silk, and linseed all showed an advance on the figures for 1881-82, while in the case of mustard-seed and refined sugar the improvement was relatively very large. The quantity of Indian tea imported into Calcutta was 59,916,570 pounds, which exceeds the imports of the previous year by nearly 10 million pounds, or by 19·87 per cent. The exports amounted to 57,767,186 pounds, which was 17·72 per cent. in advance of the quantity exported in 1881-82. The trade of the port of Chittagong continued to develope. The value of the inland trade amounted to Rs. 75,66,963, and that of the sea-borne trade to Rs. 2,36,60,290, showing an increase of 23·50 and 20·21 per cent. respectively over the figures for the previous year. The increase occurred chiefly in jute, rice, and Indian tea, especially the first named. There was some falling off in caoutchouc, raw cotton and cotton twist, salt, gunny bags and tobacco.

Frontier Trade.

Thirty-two stations are kept up for the registration of traffic passing between Bengal and the independent states lying along the Himalayas. These do not intercept the whole of the traffic which passes across the frontier, but it is believed that they suffice to register the more important portions of it. The total value of the trade with Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhutan was rather more than 136 lakhs of rupees, the bulk of it being with Nepal. The trade with Sikkim however is rapidly developing, and efforts are being made with some apparent success to stimulate the import trade in wool, of which there is an unlimited supply within a few days' journey from Darjeeling. The use of cotton fabrics also is becoming popular in Thibet, where the demand for piece goods of all kinds is rapidly increasing.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Public buildings.

The total expenditure during 1882-83 by the Public Works Department in the Roads and Buildings branch reached the high figure of Rs. 1,20,70,295. Of this amount however Rs. 37,06,652 should be excluded as representing expenditure directly incurred by Road Cess Committee from local funds over which the Public Works Department has only a general control. The amount actually expended by the Department itself was Rs. 83,63,641, of which Rs. 16,27,835 represents the value of work done for the Imperial Government, and Rs. 67,35,806 the expenditure from

provincial revenues. This is the largest sum ever expended in any one year on public works in Bengal, being more than 50 per cent. higher than the corresponding grant for 1881-82. These liberal grants for public works, which have now practically extinguished the provincial reserve (other than the ordinary working balance), have been made in furtherance of the policy which was deliberately adopted by the late Lieutenant-Governor, and of which the Government of India are fully aware. The chief works done for the Imperial Government were the construction of the Military Accounts Offices, the offices for the Finance and Commerce Department, and the buildings for the Central Press in Hastings Street. Good progress was made with these, and the two former will it is expected, be finished before the close of the current official year. The provincial works included the completion of the Secretariat offices of the Local Government in Writers' Buildings, and of the Eden Sanitarium in Darjeeling. Civil, judicial, and magisterial court-houses were constructed at Motihari, Gya, Durbhunga, Jessore, Ranchi, Dacca, Mymensing, Furreedpore, Julpigori and Pubna, and various degrees of progress were made. The central jail at Dacca was rapidly pushed on, and improvements were effected in those at Buxar and Bhaugulpore. The district jails at Gya, Durbhunga, Ranchi, Chyebassa and Motihari were almost completed, and some work was also done at Purulia, Mymensingh, Bogra and Burrisal. Towards the end of the year, the Public Works Department were called upon to undertake the construction of the buildings required for the Calcutta International Exhibition, and about Rs. 75,000 were expended on this work in the course of February and March. The greater part of these buildings however were constructed during the year now current. At the instance of the Government of India, the Local Government took over the Burrakur Iron Works from the Bengal Iron Company, and has worked them since the latter part of 1882. The operations had resulted in a small profit by the close of the official year, but it is not intended that the present arrangements shall be permanently maintained.

Roads.

The greater part of the road system of the province is in charge of the District Road Committees under Act IX (B.C.) of 1880. The operations of the Public Works Department were for the most part confined to maintaining and repairing the Grand Trunk Road from Calcutta to Benares, and the chief lines of communication in Chota Nagpore and in the Darjeeling district, and to laying out and constructing a series of roads in the Rajshahye division as feeders to the Northern Bengal State Railway. The total outlay by District Road Committees amounted to Rs. 36,62,085, of which Rs. 13,37,825 was spent on original works, Rs. 17,45,582 on repairs, and Rs. 5,45,504 on establishment. The work of the Committees was for the most part efficiently done; but it is clear that the funds at their disposal will not permit of their doing very much in the way of extending and completing the general system of road communications.

Irrigation and Navigation.

The works in charge of the Irrigation Department are divided into productive public works, and provincial works not classed as productive. The latter are again divided into two classes, according as they are works for which separate capital and revenue accounts are, or are not, kept. In addition to the purely provincial works, also, certain works belonging to the Imperial Government are managed by the Government of Bengal, and the revenue and expenditure on account of these,

which are usually of comparatively small importance, are included in the accounts furnished in the body of the report.

At the close of the year 1882-83 the number of miles of navigable canal classed as productive public works was 466½, and the mileage of canals for purposes of irrigation was 641¼. In addition to these there were 1,978 miles of distributaries, capable of irrigating 1,227,595 acres of country, of which 372,866 acres were actually irrigated. The total capital outlay to the close of the year was Rs. 5,33,17,265. The gross revenue from these works amounted to Rs. 13,03,246. The expenditure on revenue account, that is, on working expenses, current maintenance, &c., was Rs. 11,47,967; and the net profit was therefore Rs. 1,55,279. The expenditure on capital account on productive public works amounted to Rs. 8,59,285. The most important works of irrigation not classed as productive are the Orissa Coast Canal, and the Circular Canal in the neighbourhood of Calcutta. During 1882-83 the revenue from these was Rs. 7,65,258, and the expenditure (capital as well as revenue) Rs. 22,23,973. This however includes a very large sum, exceeding 16 lakhs of rupees, which was spent on the extensions of the Coast Canal.

Good progress was made in pushing on the extension of the Gobra Canal, which is now in a fair way towards completion. The Kopali aqueduct, which is virtually an extension of the high level canal, with a branch towards Bhuddruck, was completed; and the diversion which has been constructed above and below the aqueduct in order to divert the river from its original channel and turn it through that work, was also finished within the year. The only work of importance on the Midnapore Canals was the increased provision of dredging plant which was badly needed in consequence of the large accumulations of silt. In the Sone system the Buxar Canal was completed and placed in communication with the Ganges, and 40 miles of distributaries were also constructed. Among works not classed as productive, the most important by far was the Orissa Coast Canal extension, to which reference has already been made. Upwards of 16 lakhs were spent on this work during the year under review, and a large allotment has also been made for 1883-84. Five out of eight locks have been put in hand, and the work has made excellent progress. On the Calcutta Canals, the Chitpore lock and inlet have been completed, and four girder bridges have been finished and thrown open for traffic. The works for the diversion of the Calcutta storm-waters were begun during the year, and satisfactory progress was made. The intercepting cut and the outfall works at Entally were nearly finished, and the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,67,669. One-half only of this amount is chargeable to the provincial revenues, the other half being borne by the Calcutta Municipality.

State Railways.

The progress made in the Railway branch of the administration during the year under review has been fairly satisfactory, there having been at the end of the year 645 miles open for traffic, with a capital outlay of Rs. 5,00,08,000, as compared with 525 miles and outlay of Rs. 4,05,00,000 at the end of 1881-82 and 55 miles with outlay of Rs. 76,90,000 at the end of 1874.

In addition to the above, on the 31st March 1883, 410 miles were under construction, 1,175 had been surveyed or were under survey, and 234 miles were projected. In 1882-83 the financial results of the working of the State lines

showed the gross receipts at Rs. 37,68,000, the expenditure at Rs. 20,53,000, and the net earnings at Rs. 17,15,000, as compared with gross receipts Rs. 33,90,000, expenditure Rs. 19,76,000, and net earnings Rs. 14,14,000, in 1881-82, and gross receipts Rs. 29,58,000, expenditure Rs. 16,76,000, and net earnings Rs. 12,82,000, in 1880-81. The charges on account of interest paid by the province amounted to Rs. 18,02,000. There was thus a net loss of Rs. 87,000, which was principally due to the unproductive capital expended within the last two years on the various extensions. The State lines open for traffic during the year were the Northern Bengal, the Kaunia-Dhurla and Mogul Hat, the Tirhoot, the Patna and Gya, the Calcutta and South-Eastern, and the Nalhati Railways. The total length of these lines is 570 miles, and the total receipts exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 3,78,000; while the expenditure increased by Rs. 77,000 only. The net earnings gave a percentage of 3·61 on the total capital outlay of Rs. 4,46,61,441. During the calendar year 1882 the number of passengers carried amounted to 3,009,516, against 2,485,504; whilst the receipts were Rs. 13,75,200, against Rs. 12,54,409 during the previous year. The goods traffic for 1882 showed a total tonnage carried of 497,254 as compared with 376,243 during 1881, while the earnings rose from Rs. 14,93,592 to Rs. 17,95,127.

Details of the working of each line will be found in the body of the report. The receipts on the Northern Bengal State Railway during 1882-83 increased by 3½ lakhs, and the net profits by nearly 2½ lakhs, giving a percentage of 5·74 on the capital outlay. On the Kaunia-Dhurla and Mogul Hat Light Railway the net earnings for 1882-83 gave a return of 1·47 per cent., a fairly satisfactory result considering the nature of the line and the short time it has been opened for traffic. The Tirhoot State Railway showed a decrease of Rs. 25,000 in the net earnings, and a return of 1·98 per cent. only on the capital outlay. This poor result was entirely due to the heavy expenditure on the extensions. The net earnings on the Patna and Gya State Railway up to the 31st December 1882, when the working of the line was handed over to the East Indian Railway, amounted to 1¼ lakhs giving a return of 3·21 per cent. for nine months of the year. On the Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway the net earnings gave a return of 1·70 per cent. on the capital expenditure, excluding the outlay on the Diamond Harbour extension; and on the Nalhati State Railway the net earnings gave a percentage of 7·34, which is satisfactory.

Imperial, guaranteed, and private railways.

In addition to the State Railways, the province has the East Indian and Eastern Bengal Railways, which are respectively imperial and guaranteed lines, and the Darjeeling-Himalayan, Bengal Central, and Deoghur Railways, belonging to private Companies. The net earnings of the East Indian Railway during the year under review amounted to Rs. 2,97,12,511, showing a decrease of Rs. 12,35,799 as compared with the previous year. During the calendar year 1882 the number of passengers carried increased from 8,969,162 to 10,437,348, and the tonnage of goods from 3,826,964 to 4,383,652. The net earnings of the Eastern Bengal Railway for 1882-83 amounted to Rs. 36,88,437 as compared with Rs. 33,69,280 for the previous year, the number of passengers for the calendar year having increased from 2,369,569 to 2,414,200, and the tonnage of goods from 510,811 to 587,289.

The net earnings of the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway increased from Rs. 1,06,329 to Rs. 1,31,227, and gave a return of 5·34 per cent. Portions

of the Bengal Central and Deoghur Railways were opened for public traffic late in the year, and the earnings for the period under review were consequently unimportant.

New railways.

The State lines under construction during 1882-83 were—the Dinagepore branch of the Northern Bengal State Railway; the Eastern, Western, and Hajipore extensions of the Tirhoot State Railway and the branch to Semuria, opposite Mokameh; the Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway extension to Diamond Harbour; the Dacca and Mymensingh State Railway; and the Ranaghat-Bhugwangola Railway, which last forms part of the Bengal Central Railway scheme, but has been commenced under State agency between Ranaghat and Krishnagar. The Bengal Central Railway from Ranaghat to Khulna and from Dum-Dum to Bongong, and the Tarakessur and Deoghur Railways, all of which are being carried out by private enterprise, were under construction during the year.

The lines of which surveys have been already made, or which are still merely projected, are an extension of the Rungpore branch of the Northern Bengal State Railway to Dhubri on the Brahmaputra; an extension of the same line from Dinagepore to Purneah and the Kosi, opposite Bullooah, with a branch to Munihari, opposite the Sahibgunge station of the East Indian Railway; a branch of the Tirhoot State Railway to Bullooah on the Kosi, and a connecting link on the same line between Hajipore and Sonepore. The above mentioned lines form part of a system of railways between Sonepore and Dhubri which is intended to give through communication between Assam and Upper India, and will, it is hoped intercept the greater part of the Nepal trade. In addition to the above, the following lines have been projected and partly surveyed:—the Sitamurhi extension of the Tirhoot State Railway; a line to connect Sitarampore on the East Indian Railway with the Nagpore and Chattisgurh State Railway at Bilaspore, to open out the intervening country, and to establish shorter communication with Bombay; a line from Benares to Cuttack with a probable extension to Puri, to provide a direct route for the pilgrim traffic from the upper provinces to Cuttack, and to afford an outlet for the traffic from the Chota Nagpore plateau; a line from Chandpore on the Megna to Chittagong with a branch to Comillah in connection with the proposed railway to Upper Assam through Sylhet and Cachar; a line between Kissengunge on the Eastern Bengal Railway to Kotchandpore in Jessore; a line between Burdwan and Cutwa on the banks of the Bhagirutti; a light railway from Bhagulpore to Bowsi *viâ* the Nya Doomka road; a short branch from either the East Indian or the Patna-Gya Railway to Behar; and a branch from Rupnarainpore, near Sitarampore, on the East Indian Railway, to the coal-fields at Khairabad.

TELEGRAPH AND POST OFFICE.

Telegraph.

Telegraph lines were completed during the year between Nattore and Rampore Beauleah, and between Sultanpore and Serajgunge. These stations were formerly connected by telephonic lines, which however had not been found to give satisfaction to the mercantile community. A line is now being constructed between Khulna and Burrisaul, and will, it is hoped, be completed before the close of the current year.

Post Office.

Three important additions were made to the functions of the Postal Department. These were the establishment of Post Office Savings Banks, the introduction of postal notes, and the extension of the value payable system to registered letters. The postal notes, which were devised in order to enable the public to remit very small sums of money at lower rates than those charged for money orders, have not so far met with any success, the sales being comparatively insignificant. Both of the other improvements however have been successful, and have proved a great convenience to the public.

At the close of the year, there were in the province 1,439 imperial post-offices, 3,512 letter-boxes, 1,612 village postmen, and 214 letter-box peons. One hundred and forty-three additional post offices, and 355 additional letter-boxes were opened in the course of the year. The number of miles of lines open was 10,845, of which 8,078 were included in the Bengal circle, 1,563 in the Behar circle, and 1,204 in the Eastern Bengal circle. The increase over the open mileage of 1881-82 was 718. Railway mileage is not included in these figures.

The number of articles of all kinds received for delivery during 1882-83 was 41,829,892, against 38,431,484 in the previous year, showing an increase of 8·8 per cent. The value of insured letters and parcels delivered by the post office reached the high figure of Rs. 1,55,89,845. The number of zemindary post offices open in Bengal is being gradually reduced, there having been 300 at the close of 1880-81, 291 at the close of 1881-82, and 272 at the end of the year under review. The mileage of zemindary posts was 12,084 against 11,972 in the previous year. The increase was due to the opening of new lines, the extension of old ones, and to the conversion of imperial into district post lines.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Imperial Revenue and Finance.

The year under review was the first in which the new provincial contract was in force, and the accounts, both imperial and provincial, show material changes since the previous year.

The nominal imperial revenue during 1882-83 was Rs. 13,05,89,738, against Rs. 14,90,11,834 in the previous year, the apparent falling off being Rs. 1,84,22,096 Of this however the greater part was only apparent, being due to the transfer of certain heads of receipt wholly or in part to provincial. Thus, the reduction of Rs. 1,22,00,748 under land revenue was entirely due to this cause. So also was the decrease of Rs. 2,86,755 under forests, and of Rs. 5,28,796 under assessed taxes; and the increase of Rs. 48,94,483 under excise, of Rs. 61,06,766 under stamps, and of Rs. 5,19,942 under registration. The falling off of Rs. 46,05,992 under customs was due to the abolition in March 1882 of the customs duties on all articles except arms and ammunition, and wines and spirits. The receipts under the head of salt declined to the extent of Rs. 64,88,997 in consequence of the reduction of the salt duties, and the lower prices realized from the sale of provision opium reduced the revenue under that head by Rs. 57,81,301. The total imperial expenditure amounted to Rs. 2,67,05,513, against Rs. 2,73,40,031 in the previous year. The decrease chiefly occurred under the heads of Interest, Land Revenue, Forests, Minor Departments, Law and Justice, Medical, Stationery, and Superannuations, against which there was

an increase under Refunds, Excise, Opium, Stamps, and Registration. The detailed figures are given in the body of the report.

An attempt was made in the course of the year to place within the reach of the poorer classes a safe and ready form of investment, by the issue of stock notes. These notes which bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent., and are transferable from hand to hand without endorsement, but are not legal tender nor convertible at sight, were at first offered to the public for sale through the civil treasuries. Subsequently the agency of the Post Office was employed, but hitherto the notes have not met with any popularity. In fact the scheme has been a failure so far as these provinces are concerned. The only important change in connection with Savings Banks was the introduction of Post Office Savings Banks early in the year under review. The operation of these has already been referred to. Excluding these, the total number of Savings Banks was 51, the same as in the two previous years. The number of depositors increased from 20,155 to 21,027, but the balance at the credit of the depositors at the close of the year was only Rs. 61,39,892 against Rs. 61,54,476 at the close of 1881-82.

Provincial and Local Finance.

The report for 1881-82 contained a brief account of the principles on which the new Provincial contract was based, which is worth repetition. "The principle of this contract is to make good any excess of provincialized expenditure over provincialized receipts by the grant of a certain proportion of the imperial revenue instead of a fixed sum of money as heretofore. A few heads of revenue and expenditure are still reserved as imperial, others have been divided in proportions, for the most part equal, between imperial and provincial, and the rest have been made provincial. The balance of these transfers being against the local Government, a fixed percentage of the land revenue, otherwise reserved as imperial, has been allotted to it to cover the loss. The Imperial Government has at the same time declared, on the one hand, that it will make no demand on the local Government during the term of the contract, unless any abnormal disaster should exhaust its reserves and resources, and compel the suspension of all public improvements throughout the Empire, and, on the other, that it will grant no special aid to the local Government, except in the case of severe famine, and then only when two-thirds of the savings of previous years have been drawn upon and the current income is, besides, exhausted, after every practicable retrenchment has been made, and the public works grants have been applied to the utmost possible extent to famine. Moreover, if the local Government were thus aided, it would be required to provide from its surplus in normal years for the completion of the works begun as relief works, or, should such completion be not needed, to contribute, up to one-fourth of its surplus at most, towards the interest payable on any loans contracted to meet the excess cost of the famine." As already stated, the year 1882-83 was the first year in which this contract has been in force, and the results of its working are therefore of special interest. These results have been distinctly unfavourable to the local Government, and it has become manifest that unless some unforeseen improvement takes place, it will be necessary to largely reduce the liberal expenditure upon public works, from which the province has derived such striking benefits during the past five years.

The year opened with a credit balance of Rs. 77,20,053: the gross receipts aggregated Rs. 4,05,66,510, and the total amount available for expenditure was therefore Rs. 4,82,86,563. The disbursements of all kinds amounted to

Rs. 4,62,89,42; and the closing balance was Rs. 19,97,142. The receipts from Land Revenue and Assessed Taxes were somewhat less than was anticipated, while the gross earnings of State Railways were above the estimate. The revenue from Stamps continued to exhibit a healthy tendency to expand as in former years; but signs have become apparent that, as was anticipated last year, the Excise revenue will not maintain the rapid rate of increase which it has displayed during the past four years. On the expenditure side of the provincial balance sheet, the most important items are those which relate to public works. A new classification was introduced by the Government of India from the beginning of the year under review, which enables the disbursements on account of the various classes of railways and irrigation works to be shown more accurately and in greater detail. The capital expenditure on State Railways classed as Productive Public Works (42) amounted to Rs. 18,28,946, and on Irrigation and Navigation (46) to Rs. 26,67,232. This last item includes among other matters the expenditure upon the extension of the Orissa Canal system, and on the completion of the Coast Canal. The expenditure upon ordinary public works, including civil buildings, roads, &c., reached the high total of Rs. 67,85,389, which is the largest amount ever expended on this account in any one year in any province of India. The total expenditure by the Public Works Department was Rs. 1,41,80,383, to which should be added a sum of Rs. 2,83,663 which was assigned to various local Government bodies in the shape of contributions. The closing balance returned by the Accountant-General was Rs. 19,97,142, but this must be increased by Rs. 1,77,000 being the cost of the census operations during 1882-83, which was accepted by the Government of India subsequent to the close of the year.

ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS CESSES.

The results of the working of the Cess Act of 1880 during its second year though somewhat better than those obtained during 1881-82, were still scarcely so good as had been anticipated. The total current demand of both the Road and Public Works cesses was Rs. 70,10,994, while the arrears amounted to Rs. 11,71,062. The gross demand was therefore Rs. 81,82,056. By the close of the year, the outstanding balance had been reduced to Rs. 11,36,110, being 13·8 per cent. of the gross demand. It is to be regretted that notwithstanding the powers conferred under the certificate procedure, the arrear balance should still be larger than in either of the two years before the new Act came into force. The certificate procedure was largely had recourse to, no less than 93,745 certificates having been filed during the year, and an equal number of notices served upon defaulters. It was not however found necessary to resort to actual sale of the property attached in more than 2,541 cases. Re-valuations, either total or partial, were made in about one-third of the total number of districts in the province, and in every case were found to result in an increase of the assessment.

LAND REVENUE.

The number of estates of each class on the revenue roll during 1882-83 was as follows—permanently-settled estates, 142,929, temporarily-settled estates, 7,682, Government estates 2,706, and ryotwari tracts 26, total 153,343. The term "Government estate" when used for fiscal purposes, denotes only those

estates which are the actual property of Government, and does not include those which are under State management only in consequence of the recusancy of the proprietors. The expression has both a wider and a narrower sense when used for the purposes of general administration. The arrear demand of the year amounted to Rs. 23,81,835, and the current demand to Rs. 3,78,61,925. The increase in the land revenue demand of the province amounted Rs. 1,24,699, which, though less than the increase in the few years immediately preceding still affords substantial evidence of an expanding revenue. The total demand, arrear and current, was Rs. 4,02,43,760, of which Rs. 1,15,721 was remitted, and Rs. 3,81,67,960 recovered, and the closing balance outstanding was Rs. 19,60,079. Much of this balance has been recovered since the close of the year, and a part of it is nominal. The collections were at the rate of 98·7 per cent. on the demand. This result is highly satisfactory, and is the best ever attained in Bengal. Miscellaneous receipts amounting to Rs. 1,57,412 were also realized.

The work of land registration has practically been completed in 37 districts, and as in the previous year, the only districts in which any considerable amount of work remains to be done are Chittagong and Cuttack, where the number of estates to be registered was originally enormous. In these districts 79,310 registrations were effected during the year. Appeals were preferred to the superior revenue authorities in 341 cases, and only 41 suits were instituted in the civil courts to contest the decisions of the revenue officers. Under the provisions of the sale law, 9,735 estates became liable to sale for arrears of revenue, and of these 2,148 were actually brought to sale.

The certificate procedure was, as usual, resorted to in Orissa and Behar chiefly to recover arrears of water-rates under Act III (B.C.) of 1876, and in Bengal chiefly for the recovery of the road and public works cesses. In all, 271,963 certificates were filed during the year. In 126,264 cases payment was made on the mere issue of notices, and in 50,560 cases on the attachment of moveable or immoveable property: in only 7,388 cases was the property attached actually brought to sale. The number of applications for partition of estates was 571, against 605 in the previous year, the bulk of the cases, as usual, coming from the Patna Division. The number of cases disposed of was 469. The sanction of the Government of India has now been obtained to a modification of the law, the object of which is to relieve Revenue officers of the duty of making partitions of any petty estates. A short Act to this effect is now pending before the Legislative Council.

CUSTOMS.

By the Indian Tariff Act of 1882, which came into force a few days before the commencement of the year under review, the customs duties were remitted on all articles imported into British India except arms and ammunition, liquors, opium, and salt. The result of this reform, coupled with the effect of the reduction of the duty on salt, was of course a heavy fall, amounting to 34 per cent., in the receipts of the Customs Department. The net duty amounted to Rs. 2,06,50,647, which was less by Rs. 1,08,75,196 than the receipts in the previous year. The effect of the remissions in stimulating imports has been less than was anticipated, the importations of the thirty-two articles which were exempted from duty having risen in aggregate value only from Rs. 4,39,23,083 to Rs. 4,83,67,760, or by 10·12 per cent.

The advance in the receipts from articles which were not exempted was at the rate of 13·7 per cent. on arms and ammunition, and of 5·6 per cent. on liquors The abolition of the import duties rendered it possible to effect extensive reductions in the establishment of the Calcutta Custom House, and the charges of the department amounted only to Rs. 5,81,484, as compared with Rs. 7,23,882 in the previous year.

OPIUM.

An important experiment was made under the authority of the Government of India by purchasing in Central India 2,000 maunds of Malwa opium for manufacture in the Government factories as excise opium. By this means it was hoped that a larger amount of the Bengal drug would be set free for the manufacture of provision opium. It has been found that the custom of the Malwa cultivators of mixing oil with the opium imparts a flavour to the drug which renders it unpopular among the people of Northern India. It is not however intended for the present to abandon the experiment, and an attempt will be made by introducing improvements in the manufacture to remove the objections that are now felt. A commission was appointed in the course of the year to enquire into the causes of the damage which was suffered by a considerable portion of the Benares opium of the year 1880-81. Subsequently it was thought advisable to appoint a second commission, the scope of whose enquiries extended to the whole organization of the Opium Department and the system of factory management in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces. The consideration of the Report of this Commission falls within the history of the year now current. The net area under cultivation in both Agencies decreased by 8,023 bighas, there being an increase of 25,583 bighas in Behar and a decrease of 33,606 bighas in Benares. The outturn however was better than in 1880-81 by 6,091 maunds, the bulk of which was contributed by the Benares Agency. The total outturn amounted to 1,00,889 maunds of opium at 70° consistence. The weather in the North-Western Provinces was favourable for the cultivation of the poppy plant, but in Behar the strong west winds that prevailed in March injured the plants just at the time of collecting the drug. Fever among the cultivators is also said to have checked cultivation. Of the total amount of opium sent to the Patna factory, 81 maunds were found to be impure, and 4 maunds 7 seers were confiscated. At Ghazipore the corresponding quantities were 100 maunds and 1¾ maunds. These results constitute a marked improvement upon those of the previous year. Difficulty is experienced in extending the cultivation of poppy in consequence of the competition of other crops, such as sugarcane and potatoes. It is said that the development of communications throughout Behar has rendered it possible to bring the more bulky forms of farm produce to market at a price which renders them formidable rivals to poppy. The practice of interpolating a second, and in some cases even a third crop between two sowings of poppy has tended, it is feared, to impoverish the soil, and diminish the outturn of opium.

The deliveries of opium from Nepal amounted to 577 maunds against 233 maunds in the previous year. This improvement is satisfactory. On the other hand the deliveries of pussewa fell off considerably. The total receipts of the Opium Department amounted to Rs. 6,95,77,183, and the charges to Rs. 2,27,89,204. The net revenue was therefore Rs. 4,67,87,979 against Rs. 5,48,01,540 in the previous year. The number of chests of provision opium of both Agencies sold during the year was 56,400 and the average price realized was Rs. 1,221-11-4 per chest.

SALT.

On the 10th March 1882, *i.e.*, a few days before the beginning of the year under review, the duty on salt, which was at that time Rs. 2-14 per maund on imported salt, and Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 2-12 on salt manufactured in Orissa or the 24-Pergunnahs, was, in furtherance of the established policy of the Government of India, reduced throughout these provinces to a uniform rate of Rs. 2 per maund. This reduction, together with the rumours by which the actual change was preceded, had produced some effect on the imports and clearances of salt during 1881-82. The change however produced its full effect throughout the year under review, and the figures which are given in the body of the present report are, therefore, exceptionally full of interest.

The stocks of salt in hand at the commencement of the year amounted to 23,18,543 maunds. During the year, 84,46,014 maunds were imported, and 2,87,846 maunds manufactured locally, making a total of 1,10,52,403 maunds available for the year's consumption. Duty was paid on 95,45,913 maunds, including 5,21,099 maunds on which duty was realized in Bombay. Two thousand and five hundred maunds were passed duty free, 87,353 maunds were written off for various reasons, and a balance of 14,16,637 maunds was left in stock at the end of the year. The corresponding figures for 1881-82 showed an initial stock of 20,36,503 maunds, 90,03,787 maunds imported, and 4,75,763 maunds manufactured locally. Duty was paid in 1881-82 on 91,61,096 maunds. There was thus a decrease during the year under review both in importation and in local manufacture, while the quantity of salt passing into consumption showed a small increase of about 4 per cent. These results are scarcely so good as was anticipated. The total receipts of the department fell from Rs. 2,48,36,133 to Rs. 1,83,65,088, or by Rs. 64,71,045, while the charges on the other hand rose from Rs. 3,11,780 to Rs. 3,38,491. The decrease in revenue amounted to 26 per cent. and the increase in expenditure to 8·5 per cent.

Importations were, as in former years, confined to the ports of Calcutta and Chittagong, both of which shared the decrease. The chief sources of supply were the United Kingdom and Bombay, the Arabian and Persian Gulfs, and Italy. There were also a few consignments from France, Spain, and Austria. The decline is attributable partly to the excessive importations made in 1881-82, but mainly to the unremunerative prices which prevailed in that year, and the heavy losses that were consequently sustained by importers. The manufacture of excise salt continued to decline, the total quantity manufactured being only 2,87,846 maunds, against 4,75,763 maunds in 1881-82, and 6,15,776 maunds in 1880-81. Manufacture is reported to have now entirely ceased in the 24-Pergunnahs: and in Orissa it has been much checked by the competition of Ganjam salt, and the existence of large stocks from the previous year's manufacture.

EXCISE.

Towards the close of the year, the Excise Act was amended so as to fix the minimum quantity for retail sale of tari, pachwai and country spirits, leaving the Board of Revenue to fix higher limits by rule; and to regulate the importation and bonding of exciseable articles manufactured beyond the territorial limits of the Act. The only administrative change was the increase in the duty on ganja by Re. 1 per seer in all districts except those of Orissa.

The total receipts aggregated Rs. 97,81,850, and the charges amounted to Rs. 2,65,368; the net revenue was therefore Rs. 95,16,482, or upwards of 4 lakhs in advance of that of 1881-82. There has thus been an increase of 25¾ lakhs in the revenue in three years without any increase in the charges. The increase was common to all divisions of the province except Bhagulpore and was greatest in Calcutta, the Suburbs and Howrah. A decrease however occurred in the districts of Bhagulpore, Rungpore, Balasore and Shahabad. In Calcutta (including the Suburbs and Howrah) the incidence of the revenue per 100 of the population was Rs. 232. In the remainder of the province, it varied from Rs. 16 in the Patna division and Rs. 13 in Burdwan, Bhagulpore and Chota Nagpore, to Rs. 6 in Chittagong and Rs. 7 in Dacca and Rajshahye. Of the total increase, Rs. 2,06,103 was contributed by country spirits, Rs. 1,46,706 by ganja, and Rs. 48,319 by opium: and it is under these three heads also that the improvement during the past five years has been most marked. This improvement has amounted to 20 lakhs, of which 12 lakhs are due to country spirits, 4¼ lakhs to ganja, and 2½ lakhs to opium. The number of shops licensed for the sale of country spirits was reduced from 5,780 in 1881-82 and 6,284 in 1880-81 to 4,560 in the year under review. Of these, 466 were licensed under the sudder distillery system, and 4,094 under the outstill system. The area under the former system was reduced by the extension of outstills to Nuddea, Bhuddruck and Ranchee, nevertheless the quantity of duty-paying spirit rose from 342,304 gallons to 355,651. The question of the effect of the outstill system on the consumption of liquor and the habits of the people continued to engage the close attention of Government, and the Lieutenant-Governor has still reason to believe that the existing system, when properly administered, is in all material respects well adapted to the circumstances of the Province. The increase in the consumption of liquor, which has undoubtedly taken place, is mainly due to the improved condition of the people, to the easy prices and high wages of labour that have prevailed during the past five years. If unhappily a portion of the Province has now to face a partial failure of the harvest, the excise revenue will, it is probable, be injuriously affected, and this can scarcely fail to be the case if the scarcity should be prolonged into a second year. For the present, however, it would appear that the outstill system, *per se*, is not responsible for the increase in the consumption of liquor. The increase has, in fact, been proportionately much greater in those tracts which are served by distilleries than in those that are served by outstills. In the Howrah district and the sudder and Serampore sub-divisions of Hooghly which are under the former system, the consumption increased from 28,616 gallons to 33,723 gallons, while there was an increase in the fees paid for licenses from Rs. 40,168 to Rs. 47,768. In the Jehanabad sub-division of Hooghly, on the other hand, where the outstill system is in force, the fees for licenses increased at the same time only from Rs. 21,203 to Rs. 24,461. Similarly, in the suburban tract of the 24-Pergunnahs where only shops supplied from sudder distilleries are allowed, there was a considerable increase both in consumption and in fees, while in the adjoining tract served by outstills there was an actual falling off in the receipts. The only evidence, indeed, which the returns present of a possibly faulty administration of the outstill system is the comparatively small increase of revenue obtained under it. The arrangements for exacting the highest price for licenses, consistently with the discouragement of illicit distillation, would appear to be still in complete. The Lieutenant-Governor has, with the sanction of the Government of India, appointed a special

Commission to consider the subject in all its aspects and to submit a full report after careful local enquiry.

The results of the year's administration of the revenue from ganja were very satisfactory. An advance in the rate of duty and a reduction of 800 maunds in the quantity consumed have nevertheless been accompanied by an increase of revenue of nearly 1½ lakhs of rupees. The price of excise opium was unaltered, and there was an increase of 79 maunds in the consumption, and of Rs. 48,319 in the combined revenue from duty and license fees, though there was a decrease of 54 in the number of licenses to sell.

STAMPS.

No change was introduced into the Indian Stamp Act or the Court Fees Act, but a variety of modifications were made in the rules in order to give effect to the wishes of the general public and the mercantile community. One of these had the effect of exempting from payment of stamp duty foreign bills-of-lading, *i.e.*, bills-of-lading executed out of British India and relating to property to be delivered in British India. This change has been highly popular with the mercantile public, but it has led to a considerable decrease of revenue. Another important concession was the relaxation of the rules relating to the allowance for stamps used for a bill-of-exchange which had been spoiled or rendered useless.

The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 1,22,13,510, of which Rs. 33,58,840 was realized under the Stamp Act, and Rs. 88,54,670 under the Court Fees Act. The charges amounted to Rs. 3,92,718 so that the net revenue was Rs. 1,18,20,792. From this however the charges on account of stamp paper supplied from the central stores has to be deducted, so that the real net revenue is not really much in excess of 116½ lakhs, against Rs. 1,14,84,820 in the previous year. The bulk of the increase was contributed by the sales of court fee stamps, the sale of non-judicial stamps yielding only Rs. 41,738 more than in 1881-82. It does not appear that any general cause of special importance operated to affect the revenue of the year either favourably or adversely. Various causes of purely local incidence prevailed in the different districts, but these were of no general interest or importance. A succession of abundant harvests has stimulated the litigious proclivities of the people, at the same time that it has encouraged the land-holding classes to sue for their rents, and enabled the cultivators to steer clear of the money-lenders. Hence the comparatively small increase in the revenue from non-judicial stamps, accompanied by a considerable advance in the receipts from court-fees.

LICENSE TAX.

No change was made in the incidence or the administration of the license-tax, which continued to be levied under the Bengal License Act II (B.C.) of 1880. The orders which were issued in the course of the previous year directing that assessors should not as a rule attempt to make a thorough revision of the assessments of entire districts, but should confine their attention to particular tracts, thus spreading the work over a number of years, produced very beneficial effects. There is evidence that the work of assessment was more carefully and accurately performed, the result being that the people were harassed as little as possible, and that the number both of objections

and of remissions and modifications was much reduced. The number of assessees, after allowing for double entries was 76,903. Of these 6,616 were exempted on objection, and 448 others on appeal, leaving 69,841 persons on the lists at the end of June 1883. This number exceeded the corresponding number for last year by 1,738, but the increase occurred entirely among the three lowest classes, there having been a falling off of 33 assessees in class I, of 27 in class II, and of 27 in class III. The gross demand amounted to Rs. 17,40,295, against Rs. 18,78,045 in 1881-82, but this reduction, though due in part to alleged depression of trade and low prices, was also due in large measure to the greater care with which the assessments were made. Remissions before realization and refunds together amounted to Rs. 3,02,550, but of this sum Rs. 1,10,360 was reassessed by the transfer of the assessees to some other class. The actual remissions and refunds therefore amounted to only Rs. 1,92,190: and the net collections up to the end of June 1883 were Rs. 14,29,659, against Rs. 14,39,154 in the previous year. The result has thus not been satisfactory, and, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, does not correspond with the real course of trade during the year. The incidence of the tax is one rupee to every 46 persons, or, excluding Calcutta, one rupee to 64 persons. The average incidence in each division was, in Bhagulpore, 49 persons to one rupee of tax, in Dacca 59 persons, in Rajshahye 53 persons, in the Presidency (omitting Calcutta) 61 persons, in Burdwan 66 persons, in Patna 74 persons, in Chittagong 79 persons, in Chota Nagpore 82 persons, and in Orissa 93 persons. In some districts the figures seem to indicate inequalities of incidence which are not justified by the differences in their conditions, and the attention of the local officers has been called to the point. With regard to popular feeling in respect of the tax, there is little to add to the remarks recorded last year. It is disliked by the classes who either pay it or fear they will have to pay it, but by the bulk of the population it is regarded with indifference. What is essentially required is stability of policy, and if this be maintained there is no reason why the license tax should not become as well adapted to the circumstances of India as is possible for any form of direct taxation.

REGISTRATION OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Registration of Births.

The number of births registered during the year was 37,198, against 38,456 in 1881. There was thus a slight falling off of 1,258, notwithstanding an increase in the area in which registration is in force. The recorded birth-rate fell from 23·25 per mille to 22·49. In only 13 towns was the rate returned at a higher figure than 30 per mille, and in only nine towns were the births in excess of the deaths. Very much remains to be done before the figures registered by the Sanitary Commissioner can be regarded as having any intrinsic value.

Registration of Deaths.

The number of deaths returned during 1882 was 1,349,651 or at the rate of 20·41 per mille, against 18·99 per mille in 1881. The highest rates were returned in Nuddea, Burdwan, Beerbhoom, Bankura and Moorshedabad. In 10 districts the recorded death-rate was below 15 per mille, and the figures must be condemned as worthless. Part of the increase was due to the extensive and fatal prevalence of cholera. Part however was merely apparent, being due to improvements in registration. The Sanitary Commissioner has singled out the

districts of Burdwan, Bankura and Chumparun for special commendation in this respect. Mr. Rivers Thompson is sanguine that under the scheme of local self-government, the local Committees will be able to render effectual aid in making the registration of vital statistics more thorough and efficient.

It is noteworthy that the death-rate returned by the urban circles, in which registration is notoriously easier and more accurate, was 31·05 per mille, while that of the rural circles was only 20 per mille. It has been well pointed out that there is in reality little difference between the mortality of towns in Bengal and that of rural tracts, and the difference between the recorded death-rates is highly suggestive.

The ratio of male to female deaths was 120 per cent., the same as in the previous year. The true ratio in Bengal is probably higher than the English percentage of 109, but so high a figure as 120 is undoubtedly suspicious. The mortality among infants was again lamentably high.

The Compulsory Registration Act is now in force in 113 towns, but in the majority of them its provisions seem to have remained a dead letter. The Lieutenant-Governor has called upon district officers to enforce it more strictly in future.

It is remarkable that in Calcutta, where registration is more accurate than in the provinces, both birth and death-rates are below those recorded in the other Bengal towns, being only 17·32 and 30·41 per mille respectively. This is doubtless in a great measure due to the abnormal conditions of life in the capital. In the Port of Calcutta, the circumstances of which are quite exceptional, the death-rate among European seamen was 55·80 against 53·33 in 1881. The increase was due to cholera, dysentery and enteric and malarious fevers. The health of the native floating population was normal.

EMIGRATION.

Late in the year, Mr. Grierson was specially deputed to conduct an enquiry into the general system of emigration from Bengal, similar to that which had been already carried out in the North-Western Provinces. The results of his investigations were embodied in a valuable report, and effect will be given to many of his recommendations in the legislation now pending. It is desired to facilitate correspondence between India and the Colonies, and to secure the regular transmission to their heirs in India of the estates of emigrants dying intestate abroad. Beyond this, legislative action can be legitimately directed only towards freeing the course of emigration from all official obstacles, any attempt at interference with the working of economic laws being quite inadmissible.

Colonial Emigration.

The Colonial Emigration Agencies at work during the year were eight in number, of which six represented the British Colonies of Mauritius, Trinidad, Demerara, Jamaica, Natal, and Fiji, one the Dutch Colony of Surinam, and one the French Settlement of Guadeloupe. The requisitions for coolies amounted to 16,502, but only 8,927 were actually despatched. The number of emigrants registered was 13,035, of whom one-half came from the North-Western Provinces, and the bulk of the remainder from Oudh, Bengal and Behar. Twelve thousand two hundred and fifty-three coolies were admitted into the Calcutta

depôts, the losses amounting to 5·99 per cent. of the whole. The deductions in depôt amounted to 2,397, which comprised 84 deaths, 824 desertions, and 1,489 discharges for various causes. The number actually despatched to the colonies was 9,576, including 6,188 men, 2,498 women, and 970 children. The return emigrants amounted to 3,546, and they brought with them savings aggregating Rs. 5,69,760. The most prosperous were those who were returning from Demerara.

Inland Emigration.

The new Inland Emigration Act I of 1882 came into force on the 6th January 1882, and was thus in force during almost the whole of the calendar year 1882, for which information is now furnished in place of the official year. The new Act seeks to facilitate emigration to the tea districts by providing for an increase in the number of garden sirdars authorized to recruit any number of persons, whereas they were formerly restricted to 20; by severing all connection between them and contractors; and by authorizing the employment of local agents to supervise the operations of garden sirdars, or, under special license, to recruit emigrants themselves directly. The term for which contracts may now be made has also been extended from three to five years, and all restrictions of every kind have been withdrawn from free emigration. It is hoped that these provisions, while retaining all necessary safeguards against irregular recruitment and the improper treatment of emigrants on their journey and during the term of their engagement, will also have a stimulating effect on legitimate emigration.

The total number of coolies of all kinds registered for transmission to the labour districts through licensed depôts rose from 8,794 in 1881 to 10,902 in the year under report. Of this number, 7,995 were recruited by licensed recruiters on behalf of contractors, 1,450 by certificated garden-sirdars through contractors' depôts, and the remainder by sirdars independently of contractors. Of the total number of emigrants, 6,409 were registered for transmission through the Calcutta depôts, and 3,036 for transmission through the Goalundo depôts. The coolies actually despatched *viâ* Calcutta were reduced to 5,161 (not including 251 in depôt at the close of the year) in consequence of deaths, desertions and discharges both *en route* and after arrival at the depôt. Those despatched *viâ* the Goalundo depôts were similarly reduced to 2,751 in addition to 19 who remained in depôt at the close of the year. In all, 3,687 coolies proceeded to Assam, and 4,130 to Sylhet and Cachar. The unfortunate prevalence of cholera during the year resulted in an unusually high rate of mortality, there being 122 deaths from this cause alone. Deaths from cholera cannot be regarded as preventible occurrences; and in all other respects the general arrangements for the transmission of the coolies seem to have been satisfactory. Both the original registrations and the number of coolies landed in the labour districts were larger than in the previous year, and as many emigrants proceeded to Assam and Sylhet without being registered under the Act, it is evident that emigration from these provinces to Assam is growing in magnitude.

MEDICAL RELIEF.

Calcutta.

The mortuary returns of Calcutta disclose the existence of an epidemic of cholera during 1882. The number of deaths from this disease, which was also common to the surround-

ing districts, rose from 1,341 in the previous year to 2,240. With this exception, however, the town enjoyed normal health, there being a slight reduction in the number of deaths under all the main heads, and a large one under small-pox. The death-rate of the town was 30·4 per 1,000 against 36 in the previous year.

The total number of patients treated in the hospitals in Calcutta again fell off, the numbers being 253,083 against 275,714. The in-patients numbered 20,579, and the out-patients 232,504. Among in-patients the decrease was confined to the Campbell, Police, and Howrah hospitals, where it was attributed to a diminution in the prevelence of fever and dysentery, and an increase in severity among such cases as did occur. The bulk of the falling off took place among the outdoor patients of the Medical College Hospital, where the reduction was only apparent, being due to an alteration in the system of recording cases. The death-rate per mille of patients treated in the hospitals was 143, or, excluding deaths from cholera, 125. This rate is exceedingly low. The true death-rate among the native patients, excluding deaths from cholera and moribund cases was 138·26 which was slightly below the ratio for the previous year. The Mayo Hospital was the only institution which did not share in the general improvement. The Surgeon-General has observed that for some unexplained reason, the year was exceptionally favourable to surgical work, and that there was a marked reduction in the degree of mortality after important surgical operations. The Eden Obstetric Hospital which was opened in July 1882, has been largely made use of by the public, and evidently supplies a general want. The total expenditure from all sources on the Calcutta medical institutions amounted to Rs. 3,69,304 against Rs. 4,03,250 in the previous year. There was a reduction under every head except miscellaneous charges, the greatest being under the head of buildings and repairs. The expenditure on this account fell from Rs. 74,309 to Rs. 43,174, chiefly by reason of the heavy outlay in 1881 on the renovation and repairs of the Campbell Hospital. The net cost to Government of all the hospitals was Rs. 2,32,224, while their total income from local sources of all kinds amounted to Rs. 1,49,655.

Charitable dispensaries in the interior.

The reforms which had been inaugurated in the constitution and management of charitable dispensaries, and which had made excellent progress during the two previous years, were suspended during 1882 in consequence of the important changes which it was anticipated the projected scheme of Local Self-Government would involve in the status of those institutions. Closure was therefore very sparingly resorted to, and only eight dispensaries were actually abolished during the year. Satisfactory progress was however made in transferring the management of these institutions to local bodies and private committees. Twenty-six dispensaries were so transferred from Class II to Class I, and thus rendered independent of Government aid, while of those which now remain nominally in the second class, 111 in number, no less than 70 are supported or aided, not from general revenues, but from municipal funds.

The number of dispensaries open at the end of the year was 223, being a reduction of eight on the figures of 1881. In these institutions, 23,468 indoor and 934,155 outdoor patients were treated during the year, these figures being slightly below those of the previous year. It is believed that there has been some improvement in the trustworthiness of the returns, and that the real

benefits afforded to the public by the dispensaries have not undergone any real diminution. The total income from all sources amounted to Rs. 4,34,646 of which Rs. 41,269 was contributed by Government, the remainder being made up from various local sources. Last year, the Government grants amounted to Rs. 1,06,384 and the large reduction that has taken place was due to the transfer to municipalities of the cost of maintaining the dispensaries within their limits. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,65,517.

Lunatic Asylums.

The total number of persons treated for insanity during 1882 in the five lunatic asylums of Bengal was 1,056, of whom 165 were admitted for the first time during the year, and 23 were re-admitted. The number of recoveries was 83, in addition to which 34 lunatics were transferred to the care of friends, and two escaped. The number of deaths was 87. The number of admissions was, it will be seen, less than in any previous year, and this is believed to have been due to the orders of Government restricting the admission of non-criminal lunatics. The subject of diet received close attention, and every effort has been made to reduce the cost consistently with efficiency. The total expenditure was Rs. 81,633 against Rs. 93,783 in the previous year, the bulk of the reduction being under the head of building charges. The total number of persons treated in the European Asylum at Bhowanipore was 40, of whom four were discharged cured, four were deported to Europe, three were transferred to the care of friends, and two died. The female ward was overcrowded as usual, and the Government of India have been moved to consider the advisability of amending the law so as to admit of the more ready deportation of European lunatics to Europe.

SANITATION.

Cholera.

The most prominent feature in the sanitary history of the province during 1882 was the remarkable prevalence and fatality of cholera, the number of deaths from which reached the high figure of 182,352 or at the rate of 2·75 per mille. The disease was absent from only 35 registering circles, out of a total of 644. The mortality was most severe in Balasore, Jessore, Nuddea, Purneah, Mozufferpore, Backergunge, Pooree, Cuttack, and Durbhunga in all of which it exceeded 4 per 1,000 of the population. The Sanitary Commissioner does not consider that the record of the year casts any new light upon the etiology of the disease, and he is of opinion that nothing certain is known concerning it except its general relation to rainfall.

Small-pox.

Small-pox on the other hand was present to a very limited extent, the number of deaths falling from 24,371 to 13,651. The only districts which suffered in an appreciable degree were Chittagong and the districts of the Orissa division, where the disease prevailed with some severity during the hot months. The mortality among children under 12 years of age amounted to no less than 66·87 per cent. of the whole, which affords indirect testimony to the value of vaccination.

Fevers.

The recorded mortality from fever was practically the same as that of the previous year, the returns showing 929,943 as the total number of deaths, against 940,911 in the previous year. The deathrate nominally fell from 14·23 to 14·06 per 1,000 of

population, both of these ratios being higher than those of any other year during the last decade. There are however reasons for believing that the increase was in great measure due to improvement in registration rather than to any real accession of disease. During 1882, fever was most prevalent in the Burdwan, Presidency, and Rajshahye divisions, the recorded death-rates being highest in Nuddea (30·18), Burdwan (28·86), Beerbhoom (27·62), Bankura (26·40), Moorshedabad (26·01), Rajshahye (24·24) and Jessore (21·61).

The orders that were passed in February 1882, relieving municipalities from the charges on account of police, have set free a larger proportion of the municipal revenues of the province, and the expenditure from these funds upon sanitary objects during 1882 reached the respectable total of 10 lakhs of rupees. Exceptional attention was paid to this subject in the municipalities of Rungpore, Dacca, Gya and Noakholly, and excellent work was also done in Maldah. Attempts are now being made to improve the sanitary condition of the town of Chittagong, which, as a growing port and as the terminus of a projected railway, is rapidly rising into importance. Schemes for the supply of filtered water have been formed in several municipalities, including Burdwan, Bhagulpore, and Howrah, and these are in various stages of development.

VACCINATION.

A fair degree of progress was made by the Vaccination Department. The operations of Government vaccinators were extended to parts of Maldah, Mymensingh, Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Orissa, the total area taken up for the first time amounting to 9,052 square miles, with a population of 4,528,084. The total number of vaccinations performed amounted to 1,261,425, being a falling off of 88,182 from the figures of 1881-82. The decrease which was contributed to by the Ranchi, Darjeeling, and Eastern Bengal Circles was due partly to the opposition of the people, partly to changes among the administrative staff, and partly to the paucity of unprotected subjects. There was also a slight falling off in the work done by municipalities. A high degree of success was obtained, according to the returns, in primary operations in all the circles except Ranchi and Orissa, but some doubt is felt as to the degree of uniformity with which the returns are compiled. The figures for secondary operations are for the most part quite untrustworthy. Of the total number of persons successfully vaccinated, 158,979 were under one year of age, 823,129 were between one and six years, and 241,453 were above six years.

The Compulsory Vaccination Act was introduced into the municipalities of Howrah, Monghyr, Jamalpore, Gya, Serampore, and English Bazar, and is now in force in 14 towns. Since the close of the year under report it has been extended to all the municipalities in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions.

A depôt has been established in Calcutta for carrying on a system of bovine vaccination, which was imported from Bombay. The experiment has so far been remarkably successful.

The total cost to Government of the vaccinations performed during the year was Rs. 1,16,085, of which Rs. 71,745 represents the cost of the operations performed by the Government establishment and Rs. 44,340 that of the establishment provided for supervising the licensed vaccinators The average cost of each successful operation was 1 anna and 6¾ pies.

EDUCATION.

There was again a great increase recorded in the number of schools submitting returns to the Education Department, and also in the number of pupils said to be receiving instruction. The total number of schools of all kinds recognized by the Department during 1882-83 was 68,882, with 1,311,092 pupils of both sexes, as against 58,079 schools with 1,106,645 pupils in 1881-82. The greater part of the increase was, as in former years, in the class of lower primary schools, the number of which rose from 48,844 to 60,337. The total increase in this class therefore, according to the returns was 10,809 schools, and 204,447 pupils, throughout the province. This great increase moreover has followed a continuous progressive increase which had extended over a period of five years and had raised the number of schools by 36,601, and the number of pupils by 517,294. A great part of the apparent increase has undoubtedly been due to the absorption into the scheme of the Education Department of a large number of indigenous schools, under the operation of the grant-in-aid system. In the report for last year the opinion was expressed that this source of increase had been almost, if not wholly, exhausted, and the figures contained in the returns for the year under review have therefore been received with some surprise. There is reason to apprehend that a tendency has arisen in some districts to make an improper use of the grant-in-aid system; and several district officers have called attention to the practice that appears to have sprung up in some places of opening schools a short time before the examination for the sake of the rewards. These schools, even when they are not extinguished immediately after the examinations, are not *bonâ fide* educational institutions, and do very little good. The existence of this evil appears to indicate that the grant-in-aid system is in danger of being extended beyond its legitimate limits, and that some modifications will be required. The matter is receiving the Lieutenant-Governor's consideration. Even, however, when the fullest allowance has been made for institutions of an ephemeral character, and for children who are but nominally at school, the returns afford ample evidence of material progress in education in recent years. If the proportion of children of school-going age be taken at 12 per cent. of the entire population, it would appear that of the boys in the province one in four, and of the girls one in 89 is at school. These results must be regarded as at least fairly satisfactory.

Of the total number of schools open during the year, 23 were classed as colleges teaching up to the F.A. or the B.A. standard, 232 as high English, and 654 as middle English schools, 1,079 as middle vernacular schools, and 2,214 as upper and 60,337 as lower primary schools. In addition to these there were 1,398 schools for girls and 2,951 institutions which are classed as special schools. In the returns for the year under review the Sanskrit tols, and the Persian and Arabic maktabs have been excluded from the special class, and have been shown among primary schools, to which class they properly belong. There was an increase of one in the number of colleges, due to the submission of returns by the Baptist Mission college at Serampore, which has since been converted into a theological school. There was an increase of 15 among high and of 27 among middle English schools; of 29 middle vernacular schools, and of 270 upper and 11,493 lower primary schools. Female education showed a gain of 356 girls' schools and of 13,836 pupils, some of whom, however, were being educated in boys' schools. The number of colleges and schools entirely

supported by the State was 327, being the same as in the previous year, while the number of aided institutions rose from 51,510 to 62,708, and the number of those receiving no aid whatever declined from 6,242 to 5,853. The total expenditure on education during the year rose from Rs. 64,12,000 to Rs. 75,51,000, of which Rs. 30,56,000 was contributed by Government and the remainder by private persons and associations. These figures do not include the expenditure on the unaided colleges of Calcutta and Burdwan, which are entirely independent of Government. The percentage of the total cost of education which was borne by Government was 40·4, against 41·3 in the previous year. The grant for primary education was again increased by a lakh of rupees, the total amount available for expenditure on this branch being thus raised to six lakhs. There was once more a satisfactory increase in the number of Mahomedan pupils, who now form 27·5 per cent. of the entire population under instruction, against 22·5 per cent. in 1882, 20 in 1881, and 18·5 in 1880. This proportion closely approximates the ratio borne by the Mahomedan community to the total population of the province. Mahomedan students, however, are proportionately more numerous in the schools of primary instruction than in the colleges and high class schools.

The number of students on the rolls of the colleges at the end of the year was 2,900, against 2,745 at the end of the year before. Two thousand one hundred and sixty-one candidates from 211 schools appeared at the Entrance Examination, of whom 952 or 44·05 per cent. passed. At the F.A. Examination, there were 806 candidates, of whom 287 or 35·6 per cent. were successful, while at the B.A. Examination 167 out of 408 candidates, and at the M.A. Examination 34 out of 74 candidates satisfied the examiners. These results were not materially different from those of the previous year. No progress was made in the direction of transferring Government secondary schools to independent management, but it is hoped that greater success will be obtained when the relations between the Education Department and local Government bodies shall have been finally determined. Middle English schools in Bengal have now for the most part been placed on a vernacular basis, and facilities are afforded for their transformation into middle vernacular schools and *vice versâ* without any great violence to their internal organization. This change, the object of which was to enable the students of the lower classes to study the various subjects through the medium of the vernacular languages instead of in English, has effected much good. It is however reported to have produced a certain amount of administrative inconvenience, and endeavours will be made to remove this.

The report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the system of European and Eurasian education was received during the year under review, together with a code of regulations for working the revised system which was recommended. The code has been adopted provisionally for a period of two years, after which time definite orders will be passed. Meanwhile a special Inspector has been appointed and some progress has been made. The number of schools increased during 1882-83 from 53 to 59 and the number of pupils from 5,617 to 5,632. There was a considerable rise in the cost to the State of this branch of education, the Government expenditure being Rs. 1,13,696 against Rs. 82,716 in the previous year. The number of schools for girls rose from 1,042 with 21,018 pupils to 1,398 with 27,485 pupils. In addition to

ECONOMIC MUSEUM.

The Economic Museum was established in 1874 with the object of bringing together a careful selection of specimens of all the natural and industrial products of the province, and to afford all requisite information, descriptive, historical and statistical, with regard to each article. A large number of specimens have now been collected, and considerable additions were made during the year. The preparation of a comprehensive descriptive catalogue of the Museum, which cannot fail to be of great value to those interested in the advancement of the province has been undertaken, and as a first step towards it, the specimens which had fallen into great disorder have been properly classified and arranged. The museum was open during 8 months of the year, and was visited during that period by nearly 2,000 persons. The collections have been temporarily transferred to the Executive Committee of the Calcutta International Exhibition, and it is intended to strengthen them by the addition of other specimens of economic products shown at the Exhibition, and to reopen it on a larger and more useful scale in 1884.

PART II.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1882-83.

BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY.

ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1882-83.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate, and Chief Staples.

Area and boundaries.

BENGAL (or, as it is more precisely designated, *Lower Bengal*), comprising the lower valleys and deltas of the Ganges and Brahmaputra, lies between 19° 18′ and 27° 20′ N. latitude and between 82° and 93° E. longitude. Excluding Assam, which was created into a separate administration in February 1874, Bengal now includes the four great provinces of Bengal Proper, Behar, Orissa, and Chota Nagpore, and is bounded on the north by Bhutan and Nepal; on the east by Assam and the unexplored mountainous region of Northern Burma; on the south by the Bay of Bengal, Madras and the Central Provinces; and on the west by the North-Western Provinces and the Central India Agency.

The area of the British territories which constitute the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal is 150,588 square miles, exclusive of the area of large rivers and of the Sundarbans—a large tract of unsurveyed and half-submerged forest, which forms the seaface of a great part of the delta of the Ganges and of the Brahmaputra. This tract is estimated to be 5,976 square miles in extent. In addition to the districts which are directly under British rule, there are territories governed by independent chiefs, which are under the general supervision of, and in political dependence upon, the Government of Bengal. These are the principalities of Cooch Behar and Hill Tipperah, situated respectively on the north-eastern and eastern boundaries of Bengal, and the two groups of petty states which lie to the south and south-west of the province, and, which under the names of the Tributary States of Orissa and of Chota Nagpore, are governed each by its own chief, under the superintendence, and with the advice, of the Commissioner of the nearest British administrative division. The area of these territories is 36,634 square miles, and as it is usual to include them when speaking of Bengal, the area of the whole province may be stated at 187,222 square miles without the Sundarbans, or 193,198 square miles if they are included. Three of the provinces of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, viz. Bengal Proper, Behar, and Orissa, consist of great river valleys; the fourth, Chota Nagpore, is a mountainous region, which separates them from the Central Indian plateau. Orissa embraces the rich deltas of the Mahanadi and the neighbouring rivers, bounded by the Bay of Bengal on the south-east, and walled in on the north-west by tributary hill states. Proceeding eastward, the province of Bengal Proper stretches along the coast, from Orissa to British Burma, and inland from the seaboard to the Himalayas. Its southern portion is formed by the united deltas of the Ganges and Brahmaputra; its northern portion consists of the valleys of these great rivers and their tributaries. Behar lies on the north-west of Bengal Proper, and comprises the higher valley of the Ganges, from the spot where it issues from the territories of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces. Between Behar and Orissa, but stretching farther westward, and deep into the hill country, lies the province of Chota Nagpore.

The territory thus hemmed in, except at its north-western angle, by the unchangeable landmarks of nature, consists chiefly of two broad river valleys. By the western one the Ganges brings down the wealth and the accumulated waters of Northern India. The eastern valley forms the route by which

1881

Brahmaputra, after draining the Thibetan plateau far to the north of the Himalayas, and skirting round their passes not far from the Yang-tse-Kiang and the great river of Cambodia, ends its tortuous journey of 1,800 miles. These valleys, although for the most part luxuriant alluvial plains, are diversified by spurs and peaks thrown out from the great mountain systems which wall them in on the north-east and south-west. They produce tea, indigo, turmeric, the opium poppy, innumerable grains and pulses, pepper, ginger, betel-nut, quinine, and many costly spices and drugs, oil-seeds of sorts, cotton, timber, the silk mulberry, inexhaustible crops of jute, and other fibres.

		Miles.
East Indian	Railway	418*
Eastern Bengal	„ ...	242
Northern Bengal State	„ ...	239
Tirhoot State	„ ...	166
Patna Gya State	„ ...	57
Calcutta & S. E. State	„ ...	56
Nalhati State	„ ...	27
Darjeeling Himalayan	„ ...	48
Total	...	1,253

* This represents the number of miles in Bengal.

The length of railways completed and open for traffic in 1883 within the province was 1,253 miles as shown in the margin.

Rivers.

The Ganges enters Lower Bengal from the North-Western Provinces near Ghazipore; shortly after it receives the Gogra on the north bank, the Sone on the south, and the Gunduck again on the north, at Hajipore—all rivers of considerable volume—and maintains a course generally easterly, but diversified with windings. The Coosee joins it below Bhagulpore, after which the river turns the corner of the Rajmehal hills and assumes a nearly southerly direction with its greatest body of water, till the Bhagiruttee flows away on the west side to form the Hooghly, the most navigable of the many mouths, while the main stream continues south-east to Goalundo, where the Jumoona, the principal branch of the Brahmaputra, is met. About 220 miles from its mouth the Ganges spreads out into numerous branches, forming a delta. The delta, where it borders on the sea, becomes a labyrinth of creeks and rivers, running through the dense forests of the Sundarbans and exhibiting during the annual inundation the appearance of an immense sea. Higher up, the rice-fields, to the extent of thousands of square miles, are submerged. The scene presents a panorama of singular novelty and interest: the crops covered with water to a great depth; the ears of grain floating on the surface; the stupendous embankments, which restrain, without altogether preventing, the excesses of the inundations; and peasants in all quarters going out to their daily work with their cattle in canoes or on rafts. The navigable streams which fall into the Ganges intersect the country in every direction and afford abundant facilities for internal communication. In many parts boats can approach by means of lakes, rivulets, and watercourses to the door of almost every cottage. The lower region of the Ganges is the richest and most productive portion of Bengal, and abounds in valuable produce. Another large river by which Bengal is intersected is the Brahmaputra, which is formed by the union of several great streams. It flows towards the south-west through the length of the Assam valley, after which it clings to the contour of the Garo Hills, and then proceeds due southwards to its junction with the Ganges near Goalundo. These two rivers proceed in diverging courses until they are more than 1,200 miles asunder; and again approaching each other, intermix their waters before they reach the ocean. The Chittagong rivers, including the Fenny, which separates it from Tipperah, fall into the east of the Bay of Bengal. The largest of them, the Kurnafoolee, on which Chittagong is situated, rises in the north-east of the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and after a very tortuous westerly and south-westerly course falls into the Bay of Bengal. Its principal tributary is the Halda. The Sangu also follows a very circuitous course, and finally enters the Bay ten miles south of the Kurnafoolee. On the western side of the Gangetic delta the rivers have little or no connection with the main water system of the country. The Damoodah, the Roopnarain, and the Cossye, may all be said to join the Hooghly between Calcutta and Saugor Island; but they are isolated rivers which have sprung from the plateau of Chota Nagpore, do not help to form the delta, and are entirely independent in character. The Hooghly is the most westerly, and for commercial purposes the most important, channel by which the Ganges enters the Bay of Bengal. It takes its distinctive name near the town of Santipore a little above the point where the waters of the Bhagiruttee join those of the Jubbhanga, at a distance of about 120 miles from the sea. The united

stream thus formed, and during the rest of its course known as the Hooghly, represents three western deltaic distributaries of the Ganges, viz. (1) the Bhagiruttee, (2) the Jalangi, and (3) part of the Matabhanga, which branches off in the Nuddea district. Proceeding south from Santipore, with a twist to the east, the Hooghly river divides Moorshedabad from the Hooghly district until it touches the district of the 24-Pergunnahs. It then proceeds almost due south to Calcutta, next twists to the south-west, and finally turns south, entering the Bay. The Sooburnreeka, the Byturnee, and the Mahanadi or "Great River" of Orissa, have a direction generally parallel to one another, and a south-easterly course; the two former rising in Chota Nagpore, and the latter in the Central Provinces.

The Teesta rises on the farther side of the Himalayas, and bursts through the mountain barrier before it reaches British territory. At the point where it debouches on the plains, its volume is very considerable, and it becomes at once navigable for large boats. Its tributaries include the Panchu and Roli, on the left bank; and on the right, the Great Runjeet, Rangjo, Rayeng, and Sivak. The Mahananda, which passes through the Darjeeling district, is a small stream, and loses itself in the sand of the Terai for a portion of its course.

Mountains.

Turning to the mountains and hills of the Lower Provinces in the small part of the Himalayan chain within the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, the elevations vary greatly, from Darjeeling, 7,167 feet, above sea-level on the south, to lofty Kinchinjinga, 28,000 feet high on the north-west.

Sinchal is a long undulating range of hills in the Darjeeling district. The main peak, which is 8,607 feet above the level of the sea, is the loftiest mountain in the vicinity of the Darjeeling station; its summits are locally known as the Bara and Chota Durbin. Their summits are covered with grass, and their sides with forest trees, bamboos, ferns, and scrub jungle. Years ago this hill was a convalescent depôt for European troops, but it has now been abandoned. Dilapidated barracks are yet to be seen on the hill.

The Sinchulia range in the Julpigoree district forms the boundary between British territory and Bhutan. Its average elevation is from 4,000 to a little over 6,000 feet, the highest peak being 6,222 feet above sea-level.

The Rajmehal hills, which are estimated to cover an area of 1,366 square miles, form the eastern projection of the Central Indian formation, ending near the town of that name, round which the Ganges flows. They are the first connected high ground that strikes the eye of the traveller ascending the Ganges. South-west of these are broken, detached hills of considerable height, the largest of which is Parasnath, rising out of the surrounding country often in an almost perfect conical form to a height of about 4,479 feet. Many of these can be seen on the chord line between Raneegunge and Luckeeserai, and appear geographically as irregular links between the Rajmehal hills and the plateau of Chota Nagpore, which is hilly almost throughout, scantily populated, and covered with jungles over most of its surface. In 1858 Parasnath was selected as a convalescent depôt for European troops, but in 1868 it was given up because the water-supply proved sufficient for only from 60 to 80 men, the plateau at the summit was too confined for exercise, and the solitude and quiet exerted a depressing influence on the invalid soldiers. To the south of Chota Nagpore, on the west side of Orissa, are the Orissa Tributary Mehals, a hilly country containing a considerable population. There are forests of sâl on the hills, which run parallel to the line of coast from north-east to south-west as far as the Chilka lake, near the south-west extremity of the province, on the banks of which, as along the sea shore of Cuttack, much salt is manufactured.

The principal hill ranges in the Chittagong district are (1) the Sitakund, (2) the Goliase, (3) the Satkania, (4) the Maskhal, and (5) the Teknaf. Of these the most interesting is the first named, which contains the sacred peak of Chandranath or Sitakund, 1,155 feet in height, the highest hill in the district.

Hill Tipperah and the Chittagong Hill Tracts are mountainous regions to the east of Bengal. The highest peak in Hill Tipperah is 3,200 feet above sea-level. Dense forests cover the whole of the hilly tracts of the state. The forests give shelter to numbers of wild elephants; amongst other large game, the bison, rhinoceros, tiger, leopard, and bear, are found, and deer of several kinds are common. The population of this state according to the census of 1881

numbered 95,637 souls. The highest hills in the Chittagong Hill Tracts are Rang-rang-dang (2,789 feet) and Lurain-Tang (2,355 feet). The great majority of the inhabitants are either Chakmas or Maghs, both of which races profess the Buddhist religion. Valuable forest trees are found throughout almost the entire area of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. According to the census of 1881, the population of the Hill Tracts was 101,597.

Plains.

The greater part of Bengal and Behar consists of uninterrupted flats, subject to inundation, and rich in mould, some portions being naturally more fertile than others. The Dacca Division is so fertile that it has been called the granary of Bengal. If a line be drawn southwards between Bankoora and Burdwan, and carried on past Midnapore and down towards Balasore, it will be noticed that to the west the ground partakes of the character of the Chota Nagpore plateau, granite being found overlaid with carboniferous sandstone containing iron and coal in great abundance.

Lakes.

The Chilka lake, which is situated in the south-east corner of the Puri district in the Orissa Division, is pear-shaped, and is 44 miles long; its northern half has a mean breadth of about 20 miles, while the southern half tapers into an irregularly-curved point barely averaging 5 miles in width. Its smallest area is 344 square miles in the dry weather, increasing to about 450 during the rainy season. The average depth of the lake is from 3 to 5 feet. It scarcely anywhere exceeds 6 feet.

The Salt Water Lake in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs is five miles east of Calcutta, between the Hooghly and Bidyadhari rivers, and covers an area of about 30 square miles. The vicinity of the lake is intersected by innumerable watercourses and rivers, which flood the country at spring tides. A part of the lake is in course of reclamation by the sewage of Calcutta being deposited in it. Besides the Chilka and Salt Water Lakes, there are no other lakes of any importance, though there are several jheels, or shallow sheets of water. The most remarkable jheels are in Rajshahye, Jessore, and Backergunge.

CLIMATE.

Temperature.

Although the Province of Bengal is situated almost entirely without the tropical zone its climate is characteristically tropical. The mean temperature of the whole year varies between 81° in the Cuttack district of Orissa and 74° in Chota Nagpore (as represented by the station of Hazaribagh). That of Calcutta is 79°, of Patna 78°, and Chittagong 77°. Excluding Chota Nagpore, the mean annual temperature in the Bengal plains ranges between 81° and 77°.

In the annual range of temperature, as well as in the humidity and rainfall, the south-eastern and north-western portions of the province are strongly contrasted. On the sea coast the annual range of temperature is comparatively small. Thus, at False Point the mean temperature of June is 85·7° and of December 68·7°. The highest monthly temperature at Chittagong is that of May, 82·5° and the minimum that of January, 66·1°. The difference between the lowest mean monthly temperature and the highest is hence very approximately 17° along the Bengal coast. The difference increases rapidly up the Gangetic plain, and is greatest in Behar and Chota Nagpore, where it ranges between 23° and 28°. The highest mean monthly temperature at Patna is 88·6° for the month of May and the lowest 60·9° for the month of January.

Similar facts obtain for the absolute range of temperature. The highest temperature recorded in Calcutta during the past 30 years is 106°, which has been observed twice, once in 1867 and again in May 1873. The lowest temperature observed was 50·4° in January 1853 and the next 51·4° in January 1874. The extreme absolute range of temperature of the capital, as determined from 30 years observations is thus nearly 56°. The mean annual absolute range of temperature as determined from the same period is 47°. The mean temperatures of the hottest month (May) and the coldest (January) are 85·8° and 67·3°. The greatest range of temperature occurs, as might be expected, in Central and South Behar. The highest temperature observed at Patna during the past 12 years is 114·4° and the lowest 36·4°, giving an

absolute range of 78°. The highest observed at Gya is 116·2° and the lowest 38·9°, giving an absolute range, as determined from observations extending over the same period as the preceding, of 77·3°. The range of temperature in Central Behar appears, therefore, to be to that in South Bengal in the ratio of 4 to 3.

The annual rise and fall of temperature exhibits some other local variations. Thus, in Orissa and the adjacent portion of the Gangetic delta, December is the coldest month of the year. Elsewhere, throughout the province, the mean temperature of January is somewhat lower. The difference is greatest in Central Behar, where the mean temperature of January is nearly 2° less than that of December. This difference is due to the fact that southerly sea breezes set in earlier on the Orissa coast than on the Chittagong coast, and that their influence extends slowly into the interior, and is not felt in Behar until much later in the season. During the rains, the temperature of the Hazaribagh plateau, to the west of the delta, falls more rapidly than that of every other part of Bengal. Between May and October the fall at Hazaribagh is 11°, whilst at Berhampore, under the same latitude, it is only 4½°. At Calcutta it is nearly 5° and at Patna 9°. This peculiarity is probably partly due to the cloudiness of the plateau in the day time, which is slightly greater during the greater part of the monsoon season than in the adjacent districts of Behar, and to the greater radiation by night, when the skies, even during the monsoon, are much freer from cloud than they are during the day time.

Humidity.

The high humidity of the atmosphere in Bengal, more especially in the eastern and southern districts, has become proverbial. If the term be used in reference to the uantity of vapour in the air as estimated by its elastic force or pressure the opular belief is justified by observation; but if it be used in the more common nse of relative humidity, that is, of the percentage of vapour present in the r in proportion to the amount which could saturate it at its actual mperature, the average annual humidity of Bengal is considerably lower an that of England. The following comparative table gives the mean pour elastic force and relative humidity of London and of the three Indian ions of Calcutta, Saugor Island, and Patna for each month of the year, the mean of the whole year. The data for London are taken essay on the climate of London by the late Professor Daniell, Calcutta are deduced from the results of the hourly observations for 14 years at the Surveyor-General's office, and those for Saugor d Patna are extracted from the tables published in the report on rology of India for the year 1881.

Mean Elastic force of Vapour measured in thousandths of an inch.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Year.
London ...	·245	·264	·280	·315	·340	·490	·534	·530	·468	·389	·310	·281	·376
Calcutta ...	·487	·549	·695	·805	·889	·947	·954	·950	·950	·828	·635	·489	·762
Saugor Island	·533	·652	·825	·949	·996	1·036	1·014	1·007	·991	·874	·645	·510	·836
Patna ...	·350	·384	·420	·482	·712	·868	·946	·951	·913	·710	·452	·365	·629

Mean Relative Humidity (Saturation=100).

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Year.
London ...	97	94	89	84	82	82	84	85	91	94	96	97	89
Calcutta ...	71	68	67	69	73	81	85	86	85	78	73	72	76
Saugor Island	75	77	78	80	80	84	86	87	86	82	74	73	80
Patna ...	60	55	43	39	52	64	79	80	78	67	57	60	61

The quantity of vapour present in the air near the earth's surface per cubic foot is approximately proportional to its elastic force. The preceding tables hence shew that the quantity of vapour in the air of Calcutta is more than twice as great as it is in that of London, whereas the relative humidity of the former is only equal to that of the latter during the three first months

of the rains, which are amongst the driest months of a European climate. The tables for Saugor Island and Patna present similar results. Saugor Island is the most humid of the Bengal stations where meteorological observations have been taken continuously for years, as Patna Gya and Hazaribagh are the driest. The former evidently represents the sea-face of the Sundarbans, whilst the latter represent Central and Southern Behar and the plateau of Chota Nagpore.

The absolute humidity of the atmosphere is greatest on the coast of Orissa and the Sundarbans, and diminishes inland as the distance from the sea increases. In the cold weather and spring months this decrease is rapid everywhere except in Eastern Bengal. During the hot weather months the proportion of vapour to dry air increases steadily and rapidly in all that part of Bengal in which the hot westerly winds are not a regular phenomenon of the season, that is to say, on the Gangetic delta, in Eastern Bengal, and on the maritime plain of Orissa; but on the high ground further west, and in Behar, as well as generally in the North-West Provinces, its increase is much slower up to May or June, and it then rises rapidly almost to an equality with that of the maritime region. This is clearly traceable to the winds, since in the former region winds from the sea predominate throughout the hot season, mitigating its temperature indeed, but at the same time rendering the atmosphere damper, and producing, when the air is calm, that oppressive feeling of sultriness which is so trying to persons accustomed to the drier atmosphere of Behar and the North-West.

Rainfall.

The districts of Eastern Bengal and the Himalayan Terai are those of the heaviest rainfall. Their average annual fall almost everywhere amounts to 100 inches and on the exposed hill flanks and at their foot even this large amount surpassed. Thus, Darjeeling has an annual average rainfall of 120 inches ar Buxa Fort of 219 inches (the average of 13 years). The rainfall is also higher the plains of the coast than on those lying more inland. Thus, Saugor Isla has an average of 74 inches and Calcutta of 66 inches; False Point of inches and Cuttack of 57 inches.

The lowest rainfall in the provinces under the Bengal Government is the the central and southern portions of Behar, including the Monghyr, Gya, Pa and Sarun districts, where the annual fall very slightly exceeds 40 in

The only rainfall reporting stations (of which there are nearly 160) which have a total average annual rainfall of less than 40 inches are Be in the Monghyr district (38·4 inches), Chupra (38·9 inches), and B inches). The two latter stations hence define the driest part of the The low rainfall of Begoo Serai appears to be a local peculiarity, n in to the same extent by the other stations in the Monghyr district, the rainfall of which is 43 inches.

North of the Ganges the rainfall increases gradually up to the Himalayas, and on the south up to the high ridge of forest-clad country which is drained by the Sone, the Damoodah and their tributaries. In this tract, where the monsoon winds from the opposite coasts of India meet, the annual rainfalls of the few stations that have hitherto furnished registers range between 45 and 60 inches.

By far the greater part of the rainfall of Bengal falls between the months of June and October. The months of November, December, and January are usually almost, if not entirely rainless, and the sky free from cloud. At the end of January or the beginning of February local sea breezes commence on the Orissa and neighbouring Bengal coasts. They increase in force and extend their influence further inland with the increasing temperature of the hot weather months. There occur occasionally during the hot weather months, and with greater frequency as the season advances, periods of atmospheric disturbance, the most important feature of which is the occurrence of local hot weather storms, usually called "nor-westers." They are generally accompanied by heavy rain showers and occasionally by hail. Hence, the rainfall gradually increases from February to May, and is greatest in amount in Eastern and Northern Bengal, and diminishes westwards, and is least in Behar. In the beginning of June the local sea breezes are replaced by the steadier sea winds of the south-west monsoon. Between the months of June and November rain is abundant in every part of the province, and

is due to winds mainly advancing from the Bay of Bengal, but also in part to winds crossing Chota Nagpore and Orissa from the Bombay coast. The interaction of these two currents produces some local irregularities, which have not as yet been fully worked out. It is probably due to this cause that the rainfall of Central Bengal, including nearly the whole of the districts of Nuddea, Murshedabad, and Jessore, for the greater part of the rains, is less than of any other part of the province, excluding Behar, and is even slightly less in the month of July in these districts than it is in the western and driest districts of Behar. The south-west monsoon rains or the rains proper usually commence in the first week of June on the Bengal coast and in the second or third week in Behar.

In Calcutta the largest annual rainfall on record is that of 1871 when it amounted to 93·31 inches, and the smallest during the same period of 54 years is that of 1837, when the registered total fall was only 43·61 inches. The smallest total annual rainfall during the past 10 years was that of 1873, when it amounted to 45·27 inches.

One of the more remarkable features of the rainfall of Bengal is the occasional occurrence during the rains of excessive local precipitation during periods, which rarely exceed 24 hours in length. These appear to occur chiefly in the plains near the foot of the Himalayas. The following are two of the more remarkable examples of recent occurrence. On the 13th of September 1879, a total rainfall of 35·38 inches was registered at Purneah, for the previous 24 hours, whilst at the neighbouring stations of Maddapore, Bhagulpore, Arrareah, and Kissengunge (the two latter in the Purneah district) the rainfalls for the same period were 9·5 inches, 1·13 inches, 2·58 inches, and ·89 inch. On the 3rd of October 1882, 22·02 inches were registered at Gopalgunge in the Sarun district for the 24 hours preceding 6 p.m. of that day. The amounts recorded for the same period at the five nearest neighbouring rainfall reporting stations—Bettiah, Motiharee, Mozufferpore, Chupra, and Sewan—were 11·8 inches, 4·62 inches, 1·62 inches, 2·93 inches, 8·48 inches respectively. These excessive rainfalls were both due to local disturbances confined to very limited areas and not to any general cyclonic disturbance passing over the district.

Another cause of very heavy rainfall in Bengal is the passage of cyclonic storms, which originate in the Bay of Bengal, travel landwards and advance across the coast. The rainfall in these cases is much more general and widely distributed than in the case of the local disturbances already referred to. Rainfalls exceeding fifteen inches in 24 hours are not at all uncommon at such times in Bengal.

Clouds.

Except at the hill stations and in the immediate neighbourhood of the hills, the average proportion of cloud-covered sky varies between one-third and one-half of the whole. At Darjeeling on an average the proportion of clouded sky to sunny sky is as 2 to 1. In Lower Bengal generally, it is about 1 to 2, being, however, rather higher on the coast. December and January are on the whole the brightest months of the year, but November, February, and March are almost equally serene. June, July, and August are the months of greatest obscurity. In the former months the proportion of cloud is on an average from 10 to 15 per cent., in the latter months from 65 to 85 per cent.

THE WIND SYSTEM OF BENGAL.

The monsoons.

The wind system of Bengal is so often referred to as a familiar illustration of the monsoons that it might seem almost superfluous to redescribe a subject which is treated of in every text book on meteorology. But it appears from recent investigations that however well known at sea, the character and origin of the monsoons on the land have been very generally misunderstood. The monsoons are not two undivided currents, flowing to and from Central Asia during about equal periods of the year, but appear rather to consist at each period of at least two principal currents,—the one tending to or from Northern India, the other to or from the interior of China; and there are probably other minor currents originating or terminating at other centres. The Indian branch of the winter monsoon originates in the plains of the Punjab, the Gangetic valley, the uplands of Central India, and also in Upper Assam, and blows as a very gentle wind towards the two great bays that wash the east and west coasts of the peninsula. During this season a southerly wind prevails steadily on the Himalayas at heights above 6,000 or 8,000 feet,

descending lower on the western than on the central part of the range. This appears to be the upper return current of the winter monsoon, and corresponds to the anti-trade of the trade wind region. It descends on the plains of Upper India, where the atmosphere is characteristically calm at this season, and brings the winter rains on which the rubbee crops depend. It is less frequently felt in Lower Bengal, where the wind is variable from the north and north-west, but to the eastward in Cachar, southerly winds are very prevalent at the winter season. In Northern India the two branches of the northerly monsoon appear to diverge towards the opposite coasts from a line characterized by a ridge of higher mean barometric pressure which passes from the Punjab through Benares to Cuttack. This monsoon ceases on the coast line of Bengal in the month of February, when in the lower atmosphere sea winds set in. At first these are restricted to the immediate neighbourhood of the coast, but as the season advances, and the heat of the interior plains rises under the influence of the returning sun, they penetrate further and further inland, and are drawn from greater distances at sea. In the interior of India the wind becomes more westerly, and blows towards Lower Bengal and Chota Nagpore, not as a steady current, but as day winds, which in April and May are highly heated by the parched and burning soil, and constitute the well-known hot-winds of those months. Like the thunderstorms of Europe, and the dust-storms of the Punjab, they are due to convection currents, and in Bengal owe their prevailing movement from the west or north-west quarter to the strength of the land wind, which maintains its course in the upper atmosphere above the opposite sea-wind which is felt at the land surface. At this time the north-west wind continues to blow unsteadily in the south of the Bay, but calms are not unfrequent, and it is not till June that the southerly winds of the Bay become continuous with the south-east trades of the South Indian Ocean, and that the south-west monsoon properly so called sets in over India. This blows from both coasts, and the two branches meet along a line which almost coincides with the southern margin of the Gangetic plain. Both tend towards the Punjab, the region of the greatest heat at this season, and becoming gradually drained of their vapour in their passage over the land, that which remains on their reaching the plains of that province suffices only to afford a scanty rainfall, inadequate to mitigate the temperature, and only rendering the heat more oppressive by increasing the relative humidity and diminishing the evaporative power of the air.

Atmospheric pressure.

As an element of climate, apart from its secondary effects on the winds, and consequently on the humidity, rainfall, &c., the pressure of the atmosphere is, as far as is known at present, of subordinate importance. In Bengal, as in most tropical countries, its variation, except during the passage of cyclones, is small, scarcely amounting to an inch on the extremes of the year. The average pressure of the air in Calcutta, 18 feet above sea level, is equal to that of a column of mercury at the freezing point 29·794 inches in height, or to 14·61lb on the square inch. It is highest in December, when the mean pressure similarly estimated amounts to 30·015 inches, and lowest in June and July when it averages 29·557 inches. The observations of the past six or seven years have disclosed the important fact that there are small local variations of pressure which in many, if not in all cases, are directly connected with variations in the local rainfall. For example, occasionally for one or two years pressure is found to be month after month locally in defect in Orissa, and this is almost always associated with average or excessive rainfall. The study of these local departures from the general or normal pressure distribution (or abnormal barometric variations as they are termed) and their connection with local variations in the rainfall, is one of the most prominent and promising features in Indian meteorology at the present time. It will probably be some years before sufficient data are collected to enable the law of relation between these two sets of variations to be determined.

Storms.

The storms prevalent in Bengal are of two classes—first, those of the hot weather, already noticed, which are formed over the land, and are of the nature of convection currents, like the summer storms of Europe; and second, those more extensive and destructive storms that originate over the Bay of

Bengal, and are occasionally exceedingly violent at the changes of the monsoons. These latter have received the distinctive name of cyclones, and the name is perhaps as good as any other, since in them a vorticose motion of the wind is a strongly marked character, and one of great practical importance; but it is by no means a character peculiar to these storms, since it may frequently be observed in a slight degree in ordinary nor-westers and tornados, which are apparently merely a severe form of the nor-wester, and differ from a typical cyclone only in their originating over the land, in their inferior size, and in their shorter duration. The pressure of the wind in tornados, and even in ordinary nor-westers is sometimes comparable with that of cyclones, and within a limited area the former are not less destructive. There is an important difference in the character of the surface wind in these two forms of land storms. In the nor-wester the violent wind usually precedes the storm, blowing outwards, and being in fact a descending current. The centripetal currents which feed the storm are not felt at the ground surface, though they may frequently be traced in the motions of the lower clouds. In the tornado on the other hand, as in the true cyclone, the violent surface winds are centripetal and vorticose.

Cyclones.

Cyclones of the Bay of Bengal are a frequent feature of the whole period during which the south-west moist monsoon current prevails over any considerable portion of it. They are all marked by the same features of vorticose air motion, progressive advance from the interior of the Bay towards the coast, and very heavy rainfall over and near the area of cyclonic disturbance. They, however, differ very considerably in extent and intensity. Those which occur during the rains proper (*i.e.*, the months of June, July, August and September) are generally small in extent, the barometric depression at the centre seldom exceeding half an inch, and the air motion violent but rarely of hurricane force. The most destructive cyclones are those which are occasionally generated during the transition periods antecedent and subsequent to the full establishment and prevalence of the south-west monsoon in Northern India, that is, during the months of April and May, October and November.

The Department of Indian Maritime Meteorology, which has been in existence for nearly two years, will in a few years' time enable the law of distribution of cyclonic storms in the Bay of Bengal to be approximately determined. Six or eight moderately severe cyclonic storms occur every year, so far as can be judged from the experience of the past two or three years, during the south-west monsoon months June to October.

The most destructive cyclones that have passed over Bengal have been generated during the transition periods. These, however, are of exceptional occurrence as compared with the storms of the rains proper. The most striking features in these rare cyclones is the great barometric depression in the centre and the magnitude of the storm area. These two causes produce a large accumulation of water at and near the centre, which progresses with the storm, and gives rise to a destructive storm-wave when the centre reaches the coast. In the Calcutta cyclone of October 1864 the storm-wave inundated the low land lying on each side of the Hooghly and drowned 48,000 people.

The most destructive recent storm-wave was that accompanying the Backergunge cyclone of October 1876, when at least 100,000 people lost their lives during the inundation.

The following table, extracted from Mr. Blanford's *Vade-mecum*, gives the relative frequency of the more severe cyclones which have occurred in the Bay of Bengal between the years 1737 and 1876 :—

Month.	Cyclone.	Month.	Cyclone.
January	2	July	3
February	...	August	4
March	2	September	6
April	9	October	31
May	21	November	18
June	10	December	9

Of these 115 storms, 45 have been felt in Bengal or on its coast, and all between the months of April and November inclusive. Their course is usually northwards across the Bengal coast or north-west across the Orissa coast.

The motion of the wind is in an involute spiral, revolving in a direction opposite to that of the hands of a clock as in all cyclonic storms in the northern hemisphere. The greatest pressure of the wind in these storms has yet to be ascertained. The highest that has been registered in Calcutta by an Osler's anemometer is 50lb to the square foot, but this was in a storm of no remarkable violence, and one which did but little injury in Calcutta. The centre of the storm at the time was passing some 15 miles to the east of the city, and the barometer stood at 28·712. In the far more severe storms of the 2nd November 1867 and the 5th October 1864 the anemometer was blown away under a pressure of 36lb to the square foot, so that no register of their maximum force was obtained.

There is a prevalent impression that cyclonic storms have been more frequent of late years than formerly, but the belief does not rest on any sound basis of fact. Since the destructive storm of October 1864, the attention of the public has been attracted to the subject more steadily than in former years, and many a storm that would have escaped notice, or if reported in a newspaper paragraph, would have been speedily forgotten, is now made the subject of general conversation for the time, and recorded with all procurable detail in the annual and other meteorological reports. To this cause alone may be attributed the popular belief in the greater frequency of storms in recent years.

CHIEF STAPLES, &c.

FOOD GRAINS.

Rice.

Rice is the principal article of diet over Bengal Proper, and among Bengalees is often the only food eaten; pulses, fish, vegetables, oil, salt, spices, and other condiments are only added to give the rice a relish. The cultivation of rice and the export trade in rice are the most important occupations of the people in every district of the province.

There are many varieties of rice, but, generally speaking, it may be said that the crop is divided into two distinct main species—*aous* or early, and *amun* or winter, rice. Another main species—which, however, is of far less importance than the others—is the *boro* or spring rice.

The *aous*, or early rice, is sown broadcast with the first showers of the hot weather in the month of April, and is reaped during July, August, and September. This kind of rice is sown upon comparatively high lands, which are not covered with water during the rains. Its name is derived from the rapidity with which it ripens. Of all food crops it takes the least time to arrive at maturity, being ripe for the sickle within 60 days after sowing; and, as an intervening crop, it is of great help to the ryots, affording them an additional supply of food before the *amun* rice of the past year is exhausted. The *aous* rice is not transplanted, but is reaped where it is sown.

Amun rice, again, is divided into two kinds, known as *chotan* and *boran*. *Chotan*, or early *amun*, is the best sort of rice; it is transplanted, and is known also as *ropa* or *rooya dhan*, and is the commonest variety. In the first instance it is sown on high land; afterwards, when the seedlings are about a foot high, they are transplanted to a marshy soil, as this becomes ready for them, in about ten inches of water. This land need not be of the lowest description, but it must be such as in the rains is covered with water. The season of sowing and transplanting may, in extreme cases, be said to extend over five months, from May to October. There are three seasons for transplantation: one in June, one in July, and one in August. In three days the transplanted seedlings take root, and in about a month they have attained their full growth. No weeding is, as a rule, necessary. If heavy rains break the plant down, new plants spring up from the broken joints, which touch the ground and germinate. The rice grows in water knee or thigh deep. It is harvested comparatively early in November and December. In some parts of Eastern Bengal this rice is transplanted twice: first into high dry lands, where it is well manured and weeded, and then, when about two feet high, to wet marshy soil.

Boran amun is a coarser sort of rice, known also as *boona* or *booya*, and is sown broadcast in the beds of *bheels* and in very low-lying land. The land is ploughed

about the end of January, and turned over at intervals up to the beginning of April. The seed is sown broadcast about the middle of May, after a heavy shower of rain. Even this rice is occasionally transplanted, but not usually. The *boran* rice grows in water ten or twelve feet deep. This is the long-stemmed rice, which rises with the water, and its stem is sometimes twenty feet in length. The stem is most rapid in its growth, frequently shooting up twelve inches in twenty-four hours as the inundation rises. Some species of this rice will bear submersion for seven or eight days without sustaining injury, if the water which has risen suddenly be clear. The *boran* rice is gathered late in the season; it shoots into ear from the middle of October to the midde of November, and is gathered in December and January.

Two or three species of the *amun* rice are sometimes sown in the same field with the *aous*, the *amun* having grown up to about half the height of the *aous* plant when the latter is ripe for the sickle. At the sowing of these species, the proportion is two-thirds of *aous* to one-third of *amun*. There are also numerous varieties of the *amun* rice familiar to the peasantry.

Besides the *aous* and *amun*, there is, as already stated, another principal kind of rice, called *boro* or spring rice. The *boro* rice is the earliest crop of the Bengalee year, being sown in October and November, transplanted in December, and reaped in April and May. It is raised on *churs* and on low lands, and on the edges of *bheels* where the water is intercepted and retained by artificial means. The success of the *boro* rice depends ordinarily on irrigation.

A kind of *boro* rice, called the *raida* rice, or in parts of Bengal the *bhasha naranga*, is sown along with the *boro dhan;* the seed is mixed up before it is scattered on the beds in the proportion of one part of *raida* to five parts of *boro* rice seed. In May and June, when the *boro* rice ripens and is fit for the sickle, the stalk of the *raida* plant, which is then but half grown, gets shorn in the process, without, however, suffering any other injury. The *raida* harvest is gathered in September and October, thus taking nearly a whole year to arrive at maturity.

None of the varieties of the *aous*, *boro*, or *raida* rice can be offered up by the Hindoos in religious ceremonies; nor are they used as food by widows of the respectable classes. The *boran amun* paddy, which produces the coarser kinds of rice, and the *aous*, *boro*, and *raida*, where locally grown, are consumed by the lower and poorer classes, and supply the staple food of the peasantry. The *chotan amun* produces the finer kinds of rice, and is ordinarily exported.

Over the whole of the rice area of Bengal, the winter or *amun* rice is the principal crop, save in exceptional localities, such as Nuddea, where two-thirds of the lands are cultivated in *aous* and one third in *amun;* and in Moorshedabad, where the *aous* rice predominates in the eastern parts of the district. In all rice districts there is, however, an *aous* cultivation to some extent, and it may be said generally that about one-sixth of the rice cultivated in Bengal is *aous*. There is an inconsiderable cultivation of *boro* rice in almost all districts. The cultivation of the *raida* variety is almost confined to the deltaic districts of Jessore, Backergunge, the 24-Pergunnahs, Dacca, and Furreedpore.

The rice crop after being cut is carried home either on the heads of the reapers or in carts. The manner of separating and storing the grain is simple, the grain being either trodden out by cattle or beaten out on a plank. The women usually take a part with the men in winnowing and separating and storing the grain. The husking process is effected by the operation of a wooden lever called a *dhenki*, which is worked by the women of the household. Grain is usually stored in *doles*, huge baskets made of *nal* reeds, which are exported from the Sundarbans. Those persons who are well-to-do, of whom there are a few in every village in Bengal, carry on the trade of *dhan*-lending, and store the grain in *golas*, little circular houses thatched with straw, the floor of which stands on a bamboo stage raised above the ground, to protect the rice and to admit of the free circulation of air beneath.

The average outturn of rice per acre cannot of course be stated with accuracy. But, roughly speaking, it may be said that for a number of

years, and for all classes of land, the average outturn of paddy, or unhusked rice, may be taken at 15 maunds, and of husked rice at 10 or 12 maunds per acre.

Rice in Bengal is ordinarily husked by the cultivators before export. A rupee's worth of paddy is calculated to yield a rupee and six annas' worth of rice, and an industrious man with a family can manage to get his six annas a day in this way without much difficulty. The rice crop is reaped in Bengal at a time when everywhere a principal instalment of rent becomes due. It is then that the ryot has to sell a part of his paddy to pay his rent. After that he has time enough to convert his paddy into rice and derive a larger profit. The members of his family, who are dependent upon him, convert the paddy into rice, and the employment of hired labour for this purpose is uncommon. The cold-weather paddy may be purchased in quantities during December and January at cheap rates, but after that the ryot will not sell his paddy in any large quantity, and he can only be induced to do so on being offered a price almost equal to the value of rice.

The districts of the whole of Bengal Proper, or the great alluvial and deltaic plain between the Himalayas and the Bay of Bengal, and the province of Orissa, or the alluvial territory between the hills and the sea, connecting Bengal with Madras,—a level area of nearly one hundred thousand square miles, unbroken by a single hill, rich in black mould, and of boundless reproductive fertility, subject to recurrent inundation and enjoying natural facilities such as no other country in the world possesses for internal commerce and irrigation,—constitute the great rice-producing area of Northern India, which is ordinarily much more than self-supporting. The surplus produce of this area finds its way, generally speaking, to three destinations, from which the rice-trading operations of Bengal are conducted. First, of course, is Calcutta; the imports into Calcutta have to find food for the metropolis and also for foreign exportation. In the second place come Behar and the North-West Provinces, where the demand for rice is always in excess of the local supply. Lastly, there is Chittagong, which is the centre of a considerable export trade by sea.

Wheat.

Wheat is also an important food staple in Behar, and there is a large surplus production. Bhagulpore is the chief wheat-producing district in Behar, and next comes Monghyr. In Bengal wheat is not one of the chief articles of consumption, and the only districts from which it is exported in any appreciable quantity are Nuddea and Moorshedabad.

Murwa.—Kodo.

Murwa and *kodo* are both cheaper than rice, and are much eaten by the lower classes. *Kodo* is a millet, the size of a canary seed; each plant has a longish ear, longer and thicker than a ear of corn, and containing about an egg-cup full of grain. It is eaten boiled like rice, or sometimes in *chupatties*. *Murwa* is a very cognate grain to *kodo*, but it grows in bushy tufts, and not in gracefully pending ears, as *kodo* does. It is a staple crop in Gya and in the Chota Nagpore division.

Barley.

Barley (*jao*) is generally eaten in the form of *sattoo*, with some salt and chillies or other condiment. Throughout Behar it is one of the cheapest food crops, the average price being about 30 seers per rupee. What is called *sattoo* is made from many grains,—from wheat, peas, maize, gram, and pulses, as well as from barley; the seeds are parched and then ground between coarsely-ribbed grindstones. It is eaten in the same state as it comes from the grindstone, having been cooked in the drying. A little water is usually mixed with it. Barley is also ground with *keroo*, *khesaree*, or other *dâl*, and baked into *chupatties* or bread. It is sometimes boiled like rice.

Maize.

Makai, maize, or Indian corn is the cheapest of all food-grains, the average price being 32 seers per rupee. It is prepared and eaten like barley. In Patna and Shahabad, maize is consumed even more than barley by the labouring classes. Generally speaking, however, the *makai* crop is not nearly such an important item in the districts north of the Ganges as it is in those to the south.

The pulses, condiments, and vegetables of Behar are much the same as those consumed in Bengal.

In Behar and Chota Nagpore the millets *cheena* and *kaon* are largely cultivated and consumed. They are raised in the low lands after the rains, and reaped in March and April. *Boohra* is a coarse grain seed which is eaten by the poorer classes.

Cheena and kaon.

Although boiled rice forms the principal article of diet (and among Bengalees is often the only food eaten), *dâl*, fish, vegetables, oil, salt, spices, and other condiments are added to give it a relish.

Pulses or *dâl* are a most important food staple throughout the whole of Bengal and Behar. The principal pulses are known as *muttur*, *khesari*, *mashuri*, *maskolai*, *moog*, *boot* or *chola*, and *arhur*. All these, except the last, are sown after the cessation of the rains and reaped in the cold weather, and are extensively cultivated. *Muttur* or peas, in particular, is in great demand, and is much relished by the people. The well-known *arhur* is sown with the *aous dhan* or early paddy, usually in the same field, and is cut in January. It will grow almost on any soil. The wood is sold as fuel. Pulses or leguminous grains are largely exported eastwards from the western districts of Behar and elsewhere.

Dâl.

Either in a cooked or raw state, vegetables, *turkari* of some sort, invariably form a part of the food of the people of these provinces. The most common and important is the egg-plant, *brinjal* or *baigan*, which yields two crops in the year. This vegetable is daily used by every man, high or low, in the Lower Provinces, and is cultivated in almost every garden. Ryots, such as the caste of Pooras, who earn a livelihood by the sale of vegetables, set apart whole plots of land for its cultivation. *Koomra*, or the *belattee Koomra*, as it is called, comes next in order. The ryots are so fond of raising these gourds that their creepers may be found in every house, either climbing on the thatched roofs of the houses or trailing on bamboo stages made for the purpose. There are an infinite variety of gourds, tuberous roots, and other vegetables which are consumed by the natives under the general denomination of *turkari*. Cauliflower (*phool kobi*) and cabbage (*kobi*) are common; garlic (*roshun*), radishes (*moola*), *sag* of sorts, and onions (*piyaj*) are universal. For many there is no English equivalent. The ryot's vegetable garden is always near and about his homestead.

Vegetables.

The cultivation of potatoes (*belattee aloo*) in these provinces is inconsiderable. They are extensively grown in the Serampore sub-division of the district of Hooghly, and the value of the exports during 1882-83 was Rs. 24,19,556. It is to this article that a large area of the sub-division owes its prosperity. They are also procurable in the north-west parts of Dacca. In many parts of Bengal, however, although yams and some sorts of sweet tubers are not uncommon, the cultivation of the potato is unknown. Potatoes thrive best on high elevations. In Darjeeling, the introduction of this staple has been successful. Cherrapoonjee potatoes always command a ready sale at the larger stations in Bengal.

Potatoes.

Great also is the variety of condiments with which the ryot seasons his food. Amongst a community addicted to fish, turmeric (*huldee*) is extensively used in curries and in all sorts of vegetable and animal food. Ginger (*adruk*) is also eaten in animal food, and is sold as medicine. Coriander (*dhania*), black cummin (*randhooni*), and aniseed (*joan*, *mouri*) are grown in small quantities for local consumption. Chillies (*lanka morich* or *jhal*) are cultivated in the western districts of the province, and in large quantities in Dacca. They are the principal cold-weather crop also in the Chooadangah sub-division of the Nuddea district, where the whole country from the railway will be seen covered with the red ripening fields, and are largely exported to Calcutta. The *peepool* or black pepper is a condiment under careful cultivation. The creeper is planted in the beginning of the rains, and as it grows in the shade, the seeds of the stout *dhunecha* hemp plant are sown near the lines, and, as they grow, afford shelter to the creeper.

Condiments.

Pân or betel leaf is grown extensively everywhere. It is a creeper, and is cultivated in gardens which are styled *boroz*. The plant is cultivated by a special caste called *Barai* or *Barui*. The crop is sown on high land, free from inundation. Each garden lasts for a few years only, and the first green leaves, especially

Pân.

those plucked in the early spring, are said to be preferred by those who indulge in the luxury. The cultivation of the plant requires constant care, but is highly remunerative.

Betel-nut.

The *supparee* or betel-nut is common in Eastern Bengal, especially in Tipperah, Backergunge, and Dacca; and its cultivation is very profitable to proprietors of land. It bears fruit in the eighth year, and is most productive from that time to the sixteenth year, when the produce falls off. The nuts are gathered in November.

Fruits.

Among the cultivated fruits are the following:—Plantain, mango, pineapple, jack, guava, custard apple, lichee, and several varieties of fig and melon. Many parts of Eastern Bengal are studded with cocoanut plantations. The mangoes of Maldah enjoy a high reputation.

COMMERCIAL STAPLES.

Jute.

From an early period jute (*pát* or *koshtá*) has been cultivated in Bengal and manufactured into gunny bags for the packing of articles exported from the country. But it is only of recent years that the cultivation has been large, and the export of the raw material from India is of modern date. In the period of five years, from 1828 to 1833, the average annual exportation of jute from Calcutta was only 11,800 cwt.; from 1838 to 1843 the average was 117,047 cwt.; from 1848 to 1853 the average was 439,350 cwt.; from 1858 to 1863 the average was 969,724 cwt. It is after this period that the export has increased to its present enormous proportions. During the past five years, the export by sea of raw jute from Calcutta was as follows:—

	Cwt.	Equivalent in Mds.	Rs.
1878-79	5,754,540	78,32,568	3,63,65,442
1879-80	6,315,541	85,96,153	4,11,92,381
1880-81	5,427,632	73,87,610	3,64,09,516
1881-82	6,953,664	94,64,726	4,62,47,328
1882-83	9,251,372	1,25,92,167	5,14,80,151

Jute is known to grow well in Bengal, and it appears to thrive on almost every description of soil except laterite. Its principal seat of cultivation is Eastern Bengal and the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division. The plant flourishes most in a hot, damp atmosphere, with a heavy rainfall and rich alluvial soil. The seasons for sowing and growth are the same as those for the early rice crop of Bengal. After the usual ploughings, the seed is sown broadcast from the middle or end of March to the beginning of June, and the plant is cut from the middle of August to the middle of October, and in some districts earlier. The plant, before it is cut, grows stout and strong, and is from five to ten feet in height. The stalks when cut are made up into bundles and then at once immersed in water. The steeping process is called retting. While the bundles are under water they are examined from time to time to test how far decomposition has progressed, and as soon as it is found that the fibres peel off readily, the bundles are taken out of the water and put in hand for the separation of the fibre. The process of separation most generally followed is to beat or shake the stalks in the water in which it is steeped till the glutinous substance in the bark is entirely washed away. The fibre is then dried in the sun, and, when dry, is made up into hanks and is ready for the market. The average outturn of jute is about 18 maunds (or 1,440lb) of fibre per acre.

When the jute is prepared, the ryot carries the bundles into which the hanks of the fibre are made up to the nearest market, or to the large marts, according to local circumstances, and there sells it to petty traders, who take the produce away, and in their turn dispose of it to the wholesale dealers. The petty traders also go about with money from homestead to homestead, making purchases of the fibre, which they either dispose of on their own account, or make over to the merchants from whom they have received advances. These itinerant traders are to be met with in every district where jute is largely grown, and almost everywhere they stand between the jute-grower and the merchant.

The great bulk of the jute of Bengal is brought down to Calcutta by country boats, by steamer, and by rail. The total quantity of raw jute imported into Calcutta by these routes during the past five years is as follows:—

	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
By boat ...	58,02,593	44,55,549	40,86,302	45,69,560	59,73,703
„ steamer ...	12,07,921	14,80,696	13,39,809	16,84,213	20,85,968
„ rail ...	30,08,233	43,31,058	37,01,097	57,85,457	70,01,950

In some parts of the country, such as Naraingunge in Dacca, and Suburnakhally in Mymensingh, there are jute screw-houses whence ready-made bales are sent down. But for the most part the raw material arrives in the forms of drums or hanks, part of which is used for local consumption and manufacture, while the greater part, intended for exportation, is made up into bales in the different screw-houses in and around Calcutta. In these presses the lower portion of the jute, which is hard and entangled with the bark and woody matter, and therefore cut off from the clean fibre, cannot be pressed. This portion is technically called jute-cutting. Jute-pressing has considerably increased in the Dacca division in consequence of the erection of new press-houses by Messrs. Ralli Brothers and other firms.

Jute is converted by native manufacturers into cordage, cloth, and paper. Of cordage the range is great, from the thinnest twist, such as is fit for weaving, to thick ropes for hawsers for large boats. Gunny cloth is made of very different qualities, to adapt it for the various purposes for which it is used. The manufacture of jute for paper does not materially differ from that adopted for the same purpose with old rags, &c.

It has already been said that the destination of jute exported is Calcutta; but in the interior of Bengal there are several large depôts or emporia of trade which collect the jute from the neighbouring districts and then re-consign it to Calcutta. The principal large marts are Serajgunge, Naraingunge, Goalundo, and Kooshtea.

During the year 1882-83 there were 20 steam mills in Bengal for the spinning and weaving of jute and gunny-bags. Of these mills, 10 were in the districts of the 24-Pergunnahs, four in the district of Hooghly, five in Howrah, and one at Serajgunge in the district of Pubna. The total number of looms and spindles at work in these mills was 5,413 and 92,000 respectively, and the amount of jute worked up during the year in 18 mills was 2,360,319 cwt.

Sunn (*crotalaria juncea*).—This is not the true hemp, though it is known in the trade, and is exported under the name of *sunn* hemp. It is cultivated and raised principally by the fishermen caste, and its chief local use is in the manufacture of nets and cordage for boats, &c.

Sunn hemp.

Dhunchee or *dhunecha* (*sesbania aculeata*) grows in low, wet soils, to the height of from 10 to 12 feet, yielding fibres from six to eight feet in length; but they are coarser and more harsh than those of hemp. It is considered, however, to be more durable in water than either *pat* or *sunn*, and is much used by fishermen for drag ropes to their nets. It is a hardier plant than jute.

Dhunecha.

Ganja (*cannabis sativa*), the true hemp, is cultivated for the sake of the intoxicating drug manufactured therefrom, and for the sake of the leaves, which are smoked and cause intoxication. In the wild state the plant grows to a height of from 5 to 6 feet, a few vigorous specimens attaining a height of 9 to 10 feet. The cultivated variety is rather stunted, rarely rising above 6 feet. The narcotic property of the plant is due to a resinous substance which is secreted in minute glands both in the leaf and in the flowers.

Hemp.

In Bengal, the seeds of the plant are used for making a bland fixed oil, which is tolerably well adapted for lamps; it is also employed for adulteration with mustard oil. In Rajshahye, the seeds are baked and eaten as an article of food, but not very extensively. In Europe they are used to feed cage birds. The oil is extensively employed for a variety of purposes, such as for lamps, in the manufacture of soap, paints, and varnishes. The wood is used for fuel only, and the bark, in Bengal, is thrown away.

The most important products of the hemp are its leaves, flowers, and resin, all of which are used as intoxicating drugs. The dry leaves are known under the different names of *bhang*, *siddhi*, *patti*, and *sabji*, and form an article of trade. Boiled with ghee over water, the leaves part with a portion of their peculiar resin to the ghee which floats on the water in the form of a green jelly. This jelly mixed with dried milk and syrup over a fire produces a paste call *majoon* or *majoom*, which is a favourite form of taking the drug. The dried leaves in powder are also mixed with a variety of stimulating spices and made into different kinds of conserves. *Charas* is the name of the resin. *Ganja* is produced from the flowers of the female plant. Both *charas* and *ganja* are used only for intoxication, and that in one form only, viz. smoking. The intoxication from *siddhi* and *ganja* lasts several hours, while that from *charas* lasts an hour or two.

The hemp plant is grown most extensively in the districts of Rajshahye, Shahabad, Chumparun, Monghyr, and Bhagulpore. From these districts *siddhi* is supplied to all the Bengal markets. No attempt is made to utilize the bark. In some parts of Dacca, Patna, and in the Tributary Mehals of Chota Nagpore, hemp is cultivated on a limited scale only for its leaves. The hemp plant is also grown in the Tributary Mehals of Orissa, but the *ganja* produced is of an inferior description, and finds no favour with the smokers of Bengal. The seeds are sown in August, and the harvest is reaped in January.

The statement below shows in a comparative form, the results of the cultivation of ganja during the last five years:—

	Quantity of land under ganja cultivation.	Number of ryots engaged in cultivation.	Quantity of ganja produced.	Average produce per beegah.
	Bgs. c.		Mds. s.	Mds. s. c.
1878-79	1,446 7	1,308	3,768 0	2 24 3
1879-80	1,388 0	1,493	6,079 12	4 15 12
1880-81	2,235 4	2,075	8,315 24	3 28 12
1881-82	2,861 9	2,301	7,251 8	2 21 5
1882-83	1,991 10	1,739	6,264 16	3 5 9

The quantities of *ganja* exported from Bengal to the North-Western Provinces during the last two years are shown below:—

District.	Year.	Quantity of Ganja.		Duty on Ganja.	
		Consumed in the district.	Exported to the North-Western Provinces.	Consumed in the district.	Exported to the North-Western Provinces.
		Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Rs.	Rs.
Rajshahye ...	1881-82 ...	72 35 6	2 0 0	10,761	280
	1882-83 ...	67 29 4	8 20 0	12,733	1,595
Patna ...	1881-82 ...	280 29 10	281 9 0	40,740	40,154
	1882-83 ...	312 25 14	231 21 0	60,171	42,640
Shahabad ...	1881-82 ...	234 14 9	75 24 0	33,851	10,951
	1882-83 ...	171 1 2	62 0 8	32,274	11,470
Sarun ...	1881-82 ...	199 20 9	34 0 0	29,144	4,840
	1882-83 ...	148 1 3	25 20 0	28,388	4,670
Chumparun ...	1881-82 ...	208 22 13	46 17 0	30,625	6,555
	1882-83 ...	163 19 6	44 28 0	30,955	8,127
Monghyr ...	1881-82 ...	321 30 8	11 0 0	46,882	1,540
	1882-83 ...	263 2 8	24 33 5	49,625	4,508
Bhagulpore ...	1881-82 ...	339 5 12	6 0 0	49,543	840
	1882-83 ...	274 3 12	.....	51,730	.....
Purneah ...	1881-82 ...	426 29 0	39 13 8	62,006	5,668
	1882-83 ...	344 30 10	34 35 8	64,404	6,514
Total ...	1881-82 ...	2,083 28 3	495 23 8	3,03,552	70,828
	1882-83 ...	1,744 33 11	431 38 5	3,30,280	79,524

The following statement shows the number of ganja shops, the quantity consumed, and the license fees and duty realized during the past two years :—

	1881-82.	1882-83.
Number of shops	3,488	[illegible],271
	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.
Quantity consumed	6,431 9 6	5,645 36 14
	Rs.	Rs.
License fees	7,55,632	7,95,223
Duty	9,58,159	10,65,274
Total ...	17,13,791	18,60,497

Oil-seeds.

Oil-seeds also form an important crop, oil being universally required, according to native customs, for application to the person, for food, and for lamps. In recent years the cultivation of oil-seeds has received a stimulus owing to the demand for them in Europe.

They are very largely grown over the whole of Bengal, and are imported into Calcutta from all parts of the country. The largest cultivation is along the banks of the Ganges, and especially in the districts of the Patna and Bhagulpore divisions. The principal oil-seeds in the country are *teesee* or *mushina* (linseed), and *sarsoo* (mustard or rape). All sorts of oil-seeds are cold-weather crops, that is to say, they are sown in October and November, and reaped at the close of the winter season in March. Teel-seed, poppy-seed, and other oil-seeds are exported, but the quantities are insignificant.

The exports by sea of oil-seeds from Calcutta during the past 5 years were as follows :—

	Linseed.	Mustard and rape seed.
	Mds.	Mds.
1878-79	40,35,261	20,23,459
1879-80	34,43,000	8,00,000
1880-81	55,33,415	11,38,235
1881-82	38,98,398	13,28,501
1882-83	47,54,315	20,83,244

Linseed is exported to a far greater extent than any other oil-seed. The value of the exports now exceed a million and a half sterling. In 1840 the value was about two lakhs of rupees; in 1851 it was a quarter of a million sterling; in 1862 it was three-quarters of a million; and in 1864-65 it exceeded a million. The trade then slightly declined, but in 1870-71, when the American crop was injuriously affected by rain, it reached one and three-fifths millions. The main consuming countries are North America and the United Kingdom, and Calcutta has a strong competitor in Russia in exporting to both of these countries.

Linseed.

Linseed or *mushina* as it is called in Bengal, or *teesee* and *ulsee* as it is called in the North-Western Provinces and Behar, is the common flax. The damper districts of Bengal are not well suited to this plant, but throughout Behar it is extensively cultivated for its oil.

Mustard seed.

In Bengal Proper, mustard seed is of greater importance than linseed. Of all descriptions of oil, mustard-oil is the most largely consumed and most relished by the people. Poor lands and lands recently reclaimed from jungle are generally sown with it, the yield being considerable in comparison with the small amount of labour required for cultivating and preparing the land.

Cotton.

The cultivation of cotton is not of very great importance in any of the districts of Bengal, with the exception of the Chittagong and Tipperah Hill Tracts, Cuttack, and parts of Julpigoree also. In the Government estate of Khoorda in the district

of Pooree, experiments have been made to grow a variety of Egyptian cotton. The experiments are said to have proved a great success, and the cotton is likely to be a favourite with the ryots. In the plains of Bengal, which are so fertile in other produce, the production of cotton is an inconsiderable industry, and nothing is exported, while much is imported from the North-Western Provinces. The cotton grown in Bengal is not sufficient for the requirements of the people, and has to be supplemented by cotton imported by land or river from the west, and by an increasing importation of English piece-goods.

Generally speaking, then, it may be said that the production of cotton does not form an important industry of the cultivators in Bengal. It is cultivated, not as an article of commerce, but for the sake of variety and domestic use, the agricultural classes only preferring strong home-made spun cloth to the less durable machine-made European cotton piece-goods procurable in the bazar. There is no anxiety on the part of the cultivators to extend or improve the cultivation of cotton. which is gradually, but surely, being driven out of the market by the introduction and increasing use of foreign twist and cloth.

There is, however, an important export trade in cotton from Calcutta. The facilities of communication by rail attract the surplus produce of the Upper Provinces to Calcutta to a certain extent.

The trade of Calcutta in raw cotton during the past three years is shown in the following statement:—

	Imports.			Exports.		
	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
By boat	30,796	25,892	36,440	22,900	17,867	12,928
„ inland steamer	5,893	12,451	13,797	16	17	27
„ East Indian Railway ...	11,49,928	9,57,232	7,09,188	4,503	2,766	5,287
„ Eastern Bengal Railway ...	21,200	34,664	41,266	14,050	2,591	4,394
„ Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	.....
„ road	4,598	3,559	5,711	5,127	6,278	4,682
„ sea	1,28,349	1,59,630	1,92,121	11,94,218	9,56,782	7,00,703
Total ...	13,40,764	11,93,428	9,98,523	12,40,831	9,86,301	7,28,021

The surplus remains for local consumption in the cotton mills established in the vicinity of Calcutta.

Sugar is manufactured both from the sugarcane and the date-tree.

Sugar.

The cultivation of the date-tree and the manufacture of date sugar are extensively carried on in the districts of Furreedpore, Bhagulpore, Jessore, in parts of Nuddea, the 24-Pergunnahs, and Khoolna. It is a popular and profitable business for the cultivators. The juice is extracted from the trees during the cold season. A tree yields five seers a season, and goes on yielding for 20 years or more. A bigha of land is sometimes planted out with as many as a hundred trees. Each tree gives the ryot a clear profit of about six annas, and he also enjoys the advantage of raising a cold weather rice crop on the ground occupied by the date garden. *Goor* or molasses and date sugar are largely consumed in the districts in which they are manufactured, and are also exported to Calcutta. In the Bhagulpore district, the annual outturn of *goor* is estimated at 1,15,000 maunds, valued at Rs. 2,30,000. In the district of Jessore, where the making of date sugar is a thriving and popular industry, there were 24,122 acres under date cultivation during 1882-83. The outturn of coarse sugar during last year was 10,056 tons, and its average price was Rs. 3-6 per cwt. The total value of sugar—refined, fine, and coarse—manufactured in the district during the year, was Rs. 27,72,599 for sugar (*cheenee*), and Rs 20,73,642 for coarse sugar (*goor*).

The sugarcane, of which there are several varieties, is grown throughout the Province. It is most extensively cultivated in the Patna, Rajshahye and Cooch Behar, and Burdwan Divisions, where the area planted out is estimated

at 1,14,000, 44,000, and 39,000 acres, respectively. The total area under sugar-cane in the Province is about 2,50,000 acres. Of the Native states, the Cuttack Tributary Mehals have the largest cultivation, viz. 4,500 acres.

The cane is generally grown on high lands which are not subject to inundation but which are easily irrigated. The cost of cultivation and manufacture varies considerably in all the divisions. In some districts sugar and *goor* are manufactured for home consumption only, while in others they are manufactured for home use as well as for export to other districts. Three sorts of machines are generally in use for the extraction of the juice from the cane,—(1) the ordinary native presser, (2) the country *churkhi*, and (3) the iron mill of European construction called the Beheea mill. This mill has been successfully introduced in many parts of the Province, and its use has resulted in diminishing the cost of manufacturing sugar. There are several sugar factories and refineries in Bengal. In the Jessore district there are 57 factories. In the Madhubani sub-division of the Durbhunga district there are 30 refineries. At Doomraon in the Shahabad district there are extensive refineries. In Cossipore in the suburbs of Calcutta there is a large sugar factory. In the Shahabad district, where probably the largest quantities of sugar and *goor* are manufactured from the sugarcane, the outturn last year was 14,40,000 maunds, valued at Rs. 43,20,000.

During 1882-83, 5,77,578 maunds of refined sugar, and 8,17,931 maunds of unrefined sugar were imported into Calcutta. The details of the imports are shown below:—

	Refined sugar.	Unrefined sugar.
	Mds.	Mds.
From Bengal	3,31,125	7,71,184
„ Behar	1,14,914	39,409
„ North-Western Provinces and Oudh...	83,793	6,464
„ Madras	46,197	860
„ Bombay	139	.....
„ Chota Nagpore	.....	3
„ Punjab	.....	11
„ Other places	1,410	.....
Total ...	5,77,578	8,17,931

The exports were 3,71,519 maunds of refined sugar, and 3,80,260 maunds of unrefined sugar, the exports by sea being 2,47,841 maunds and 1,16,468 maunds, respectively.

Tobacco.

Tobacco is grown more or less extensively in every district in Bengal, but with the exception of Rungpore and the Dooars, Durbhunga, Purneah, 24-Pergunnahs, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and Nuddea, there is hardly a place in which it is sown for trade and export. It is, however, everywhere grown for local consumption. The cultivator ordinarily takes up a small plot of land at his homestead, near his cow-house, for the convenience of manuring the land, as he always, if possible, manures his tobacco crop. In Baraset and elsewhere, where indigo cultivation has mostly died out, tobacco has been found to thrive well on the old indigo lands, and may be seen planted up to the very edge of the ruined vats. Tobacco is reared in a nursery in August, September, and October, is transplanted a month later, and the leaves are ready for gathering from January to March.

The Rungpore, or *Kochar* tobacco as it is called, is distributed all over Eastern Bengal, and a not inconsiderable quantity leaves the country and goes to British Burmah and elsewhere. The climate and soil of Rungpore are remarkably suited for the cultivation of tobacco, and it is possible that in a few years the growth of this plant may become of far greater importance than it now is. What is most wanted at present is to introduce improvements in the curing process. As evidence of the excellence of the Rungpore tobacco,

it may be noted that a medal was obtained by a native of the district for a specimen which he exhibited at the Paris Exhibition of 1867.

The quality of the tobacco grown in Rungpore is much liked by the natives, and tobacco has been a staple of the district for at least a century past. The trade is chiefly in the hands of Mughs, forty or fifty of whom come annually to the district, and export the tobacco to Calcutta, and to Naraingunge and Chittagong for export to Burmah. This tobacco is eventually for the most part made up into Burmah cheroots, and is manufactured in Calcutta as well as in Burmah. The produce varies from six to twelve maunds an acre, while the price varies from Rs. 3 to Rs. 7 per maund. The Burmese Mughs, who import tobacco into their own country for the purpose of making cheroots, select the very broad and thick-leaved plant, neither too mild nor too strong, and pay as much as Rs. 7 a maund for it. The variety most prized by them is called by the people *hathee kan* from its resemblance to the ears of the elephant.

In Dinagepore, Cooch Behar, and Julpigoree also tobacco is widely cultivated, and the produce of Cooch Behar especially is highly esteemed. In Purneah, the best localities for tobacco are the west and north-west of the district.

In the districts of the 24-Pergunnahs and Nuddea, tobacco is generally grown merely for domestic use, but in a tract of country including the northern part of the Baraset sub-division of the 24-Pergunnahs and the southern portions of Ranaghat and Bongong in Nuddea, the cultivation is of more importance, and the crop is exported. The quality and price vary considerably. The best tobacco is called the Hinglee tobacco, from Hinglee, a village on the left bank of the Jamoona river, three or four miles west of the Gaighatta thana in Nuddea. Tobacco going by the name of Hinglee tobacco, is grown generally over this area, and sells for from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 or Rs. 8 per maund. The exports are mostly to Calcutta.

In Behar, the principal cultivation of tobacco is in the Durbhunga district, and the most extensive cultivation as well as the best tobacco comes from the Tajpore sub-division in pergunnah Sareysa, which is famous for the good quality of the leaf. The average yield per acre is said to be about 18 to 20 maunds, and the price is about Rs. 5 per maund. The cultivators generally derive a very handsome profit, generally averaging Rs. 60 per bigah, and sometimes as much as Rs. 80 or Rs. 90. Tobacco leaves the district in various ways—some of the ryots themselves export it in carts to Nepaul or take it to Hajeepore and other river marts in the district and there dispose of it, while many thousand maunds are bought up by the travelling merchants and transported by river and rail to the Upper Provinces and Bengal. The cultivators, however, generally dispose of it to purchasers from Goruckpore, who sometimes buy it as it stands on the land.

At the Poosah farm in the district of Durbhunga a European firm has begun to cultivate tobacco and to manufacture it for the European and Indian markets. The quantity of land under tobacco cultivation on the 31st May 1882 was 400 bighas. This year (1883) it is 500 bighas. The estimated yield is 600lb per bigha. The quantity of smoking mixture, selling at an average of Re. 1 per pound, was 24,000lb and that of cigarettes, selling at Rs. 2 per pound, was 3,000lb. Last year about 60,000lb of cavendish and smoking mixture, 10,000lb of cheroots, and 800lb of cigarettes were manufactured. The quantity of raw leaf supplied to England was 62,000lb, as against 61,000lb in the previous year. News has not yet been received of the amount at which it has been valued. The estimated value of the 30,000lb of the present crop is valued at 2½ annas per pound in India.

The export of tobacco from Calcutta during 1882-83 amounted to 4,21,189 maunds, of which 2,43,116 maunds were exported by sea. The total value of the exports was Rs. 35,80,000.

Tea.

The only divisions in which tea is cultivated are the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar, Chittagong, Dacca, and Chota Nagpore Divisions. At the close of 1882 there were 300 gardens in Bengal, covering an area of 48,000 acres. The quantity of land which had been taken up for planting, but which had not been so utilized, was 46,094 acres. In the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division there were

225 gardens with an area of 40,838 acres; in the Chittagong Division there were 31 gardens on 3,505 acres; in the Chota Nagpore Division 38 gardens with 3,718 acres; and in the Dacca Division 6 gardens with 32 acres. The approximate yield for the entire province was 11,170,564lb, which was made up as follows: 9,946,094lb in the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division; 930,833lb in the Chittagong Division; 290,291lb in the Chota Nagpore Division; and 3,346lb in the Dacca Division. The area under mature plants was 31,386 acres in the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division; 2,893 acres in the Chittagong Division; 1,770 acres in the Chota Nagpore Division; and 31 acres in the Dacca Division. The average yield per acre from mature plants varies considerably in the four divisions, being 350·5lb in the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division, 322·7lb in the Chittagong Division, 109·7lb in the Dacca Division, and 164lb in the Chota Nagpore Division; the average outturn per acre for the whole province was 309·6lb.

The following statement shows the trade of Calcutta in Indian tea during the past three years:—

	Imports.			Exports.		
	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb	lb
By inland steamer	31,087,049	31,440,960	39,600,740	.....	.....	.....
„ Eastern Bengal Railway ...	17,228,654	17,019,319	17,880,521	94,875	139,145	59,389
„ East Indian Railway ...	868,772	738,761	1,432,430	425,991	776,365	423,607
„ boat	.....	.....	.....	4,278	.....	.....
„ sea	735,088	785,573	1,002,879	46,279,005	48,156,065	57,284,190
Total ...	49,919,563	49,984,613	59,916,570	46,804,149	49,071,575	57,767,186

The value of the exports by sea during the three years was Rs. 3,02,18,146 in 1880-81, Rs. 3,54,33,359 in 1881-82, and Rs. 3,64,86,598 in 1882-83.

The largest imports are from Assam, which supplied Bengal with 38,770,642lb in 1880-81, 38,652,643lb in 1881-82, and 44,777,500lb in 1882-83. Tea is also imported into Bengal from the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab. The chief exports by sea are to the United Kingdom, where 44,938,078lb were sent in 1880-81, 46,739,532lb in 1881-82, and 53,414,679lb in 1882-83. There is also a large and rapidly growing trade with the Australian colonies.

Indigo.

In Bengal, indigo is generally grown on low-lying lands with sandy soil, that are liable to annual inundation; in Behar on comparatively high land. The general practice of the planter is to obtain from the zemindar or landlord a lease of a village area for a term of years, and then to require the ryots to grow indigo on a certain portion of their farms every year, the failure of the other hand in the form of advances. The seed, of which the best kind is imported from the mainland, is generally sown about March, and the crop is ready for gathering in the beginning of July. A second crop is sometimes obtained in September. When cut, the leaves are taken to the factory to be steeped in large vats for about ten hours until the process of fermentation is completed. The water is then poured out into a second vat, and subjected to a brisk beating, the effect of which is to separate the particles of dye and cause them to settle at the bottom. Finally the sediment is boiled, strained, and made up into cakes for the Calcutta market. In recent years, steam has been introduced into the factories for two purposes, viz., to maintain an equable temperature in the vats while the preliminary process of fermentation is going on, and to supersede by machinery the manual labour of beating.

In the districts of Nuddea and Jessore, and throughout Central Bengal, in Purneah, and westward in all Behar north of the Ganges, indigo is largely cultivated, and, from its mode of cultivation, is in many places the most important article that engrosses the attention of the people.

The indigo industry in the Burdwan division is steadily declining. In the Burdwan district there are several factories under native management. The outturn during 1882-83 was 364 maunds, valued at Rs. 72,444. In Beerbhoom there are four factories managed by natives, but no statistics of the

superintended by Europeans. The silk reeled off in the European factories is consigned direct to Europe.

Lac (láh) is a cellular resinous incrustation of a deep orange colour secreted by an insect (*Coccus lacca*) round the branches of various trees, the most common being the *kusum* (*Schleichera trijuga*), *palas* (*Butea frondosa*), *pipal* (*Ficus religiosa*), and *bair* (*Zizyphus jujuba*). Its principal chemical component is resin, forming from 60 to 70 per cent. of the whole, from which is manufactured the shell-lac of commerce. Lac-dye is obtained from the small cells of the crustation, and is itself a portion of the body of the female insect. The entire incrustation, while still adhering to the twig, is called stick-lac. In order to obtain the largest quantity of dye, the stick-lac is gathered before the young come out, which happens twice in the year, in January and July. The dye is first extracted by repeated processes of washing and straining, while the shell-lac is worked up from what remains in a hot and semi-liquid state.

The principal lac factories in Bengal are in the districts of Lohardugga and Manbhoom in the Chota Nagpore Division, and in the Bankoorah and Beerbhoom districts in the Burdwan Division. Stick and shell-lac are largely exported from Manbhoom. The quantities exported during the past two years from this district were—

	1881-82. Mds.	1882-83. Mds.
Stick-lac	92,000	60,000
Shell-lac	16,000	28,000

In the Bankoora district shell-lac is the most flourishing manufacture. There are 34 factories turning out shell-lac and lac-dye. There is still an active demand for shell-lac, but lac-dye is being superseded by European dyes. It is said that lac-dye, which was formerly sold at from Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per maund, cannot now find a market at Rs. 6-12 a maund. Stick-lac is found in the jungly parts of Bankoora. The quantity of stick-lac obtained locally last year for the Mejea factories was 400 maunds. The main supply of this article for all the factories in the district is obtained from the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division. The total quantity imported was about 38,300 maunds. The outturn of shell-lac during 1882-83 was 20,160 maunds, and the average price per maund was Rs. 30. The industry is carried on to a large extent at Elambazar, in Beerbhoom. There are eight factories, all under native management, but they are not in a flourishing condition, owing to the difficulty of obtaining the raw material. In the year 1882-83, 1,150 maunds of lac were exported from this district to Calcutta and other places, while in the preceding year the quantity exported was 1,300 maunds. Shell-lac and lac-dye are manufactured at Mankur and Degnuggur, in Burdwan, but the industry is on the decline here also.

There is a lac factory at Cossipore in the suburbs of Calcutta. The outturn of shell and lac-dye from that factory during the year 1882, was estimated at 25,000 maunds, valued at Rs. 6,00,000.

The following statement shows the exports of lac by sea from Calcutta during the past five years:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1878-79	90,294	29,72,643
1879-80	69,849	36,96,021
1880-81	86,647	57,55,499
1881-82	116,205	71,61,011
1882-83	137,662	69,59,125

In some parts of the country safflower is grown merely for home use and consumption. It is generally used for dyeing purposes. It is grown most extensively in the Dacca Division for export. The trade in this article has, however, considerably declined, as it is not much in demand now-a-days, and it no longer fetches the

high prices that it did some years ago. The estimated outturn of the division last year was about 2,000 to 2,500 maunds only, or about half of what it was during the preceding year. Prices ranged last year from Rs. 12 to Rs. 16 per maund in place of Rs. 24 to Rs. 36 in the year before. The total export of safflower from the Bengal Presidency has fallen off from 4,424 cwt., valued at Rs. 1,83,431, in 1878-79, to 2,516 cwt., valued at Rs. 88,382, in 1882-83.

SALTPETRE.

A chief industry in Behar is the refining of saltpetre, which is one of the principal manufactures of the districts of Mozufferpore, Durbhunga, Sarun, and Chumparun. Like all branches of industry in India, the manufacture of saltpetre is based on a system of advances. The large houses of business contract generally with middlemen, who again give advances to the village *noonyas*, a poor and hardy race of labourers, who rent a small site of saliferous earth, collect the earth into large shallow pans, puddle it, and drain off the water with the saline matter in it into earthen vessels, and then boil and strain it; and the crude saltpetre thus manufactured is sold to the refiners, by whom is prepared the saltpetre of commerce. The manufacture of saltpetre is now controlled by the Inland Customs Department, and the trade in this article is reviving under the influence of more liberal custom rules and better prices.

The imports into, and exports from, Calcutta during the past three years are shown below:—

	Imports.			Exports.		
	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
By East Indian Railway ...	526,273	525,564	621,510	1,965	463	2,134
„ Eastern Bengal Railway ...	26	1,122	20	604	826	887
„ boat	18,299	22,570	8,450	918	530	741
„ inland steamer	.....	.....	.....	47	55	106
„ road	.....	.....	.....	6	42	15
„ sea	.....	.....	.....	482,403	483,964	545,377
Total ...	544,598	549,256	629,980	485,943	485,880	549,260

The largest imports are from Behar and the North-Western Provinces, which supply respectively about $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{2}{9}$ of the entire quantity imported. The value of the imports during the past three years was Rs. 43,62,984 in 1880-81, Rs. 43,94,048 in 1881-82, and Rs. 50,39,840 in 1882-83. Of the exports by sea, about $\frac{1}{3}$ was shipped to the United Kingdom, and the remainder to other foreign ports. The total value of the exports was Rs. 35,39,219 in 1880-81, Rs. 36,06,973 in 1881-82, and Rs. 39,01,521 in 1882-83.

CINCHONA.

The cultivation of the cinchona plant, which was introduced as an experiment about 1862 in a valley of the Himalayas in the district of Darjeeling, has attained great success. In 1877, the total number of cinchona plants, cuttings, and seedlings amounted to 3,817,192. In 1882-83 the number had increased to 4,711,168. The bark crop of the year was 396,980lb, and by far the largest portion of this produce was made over to the Government factory for conversion into febrifuge; about 41,800lb of yellow and red barks were sent, at the request of the Secretary of State, to London to be there converted into various forms of febrifuge and returned to this country for trial by the Medical Department. The quantity of ordinary febrifuge manufactured was 10,363lb, and of crystalline febrifuge 300lb. The price of the ordinary febrifuge was Rs. 8-8 a pound, which is the lowest price on record. The price of crystalline febrifuge was Rs. 12-13-2 per pound. The revenue derived from the sale of the febrifuge, seeds, plants, and bark amounted to Rs. 1,52,807. The operations of the year resulted in a profit of Rs. 66,284, which is equal to a dividend of 6½ per cent. on the capital outlay. This is exclusive of the cost of bark

sent to the Secretary of State, which has not been taken into account. The saving effected during the year by the substitution of the febrifuge for sulphate of quinine was Rs. 3,32,340. The total saving since the opening of the factory amounts to 23¼ lakhs, which is more than twice the amount of the cost of the plantations.

The success of the Government plantations has given an impetus to private enterprise in cinchona cultivation, although no advantage has been taken of the offer made by Government last year to sell the yellow bark plantation on condition of the purchaser manufacturing sulphate of quinine. The tract of land taken up by Messrs. Schoene, Kilburn, east of the Teesta has been opened out, 15 miles of road have been made, 350 acres have been cleared for cultivation, and 32 acres planted.

Forests.

The Government forests of Bengal are confined to the Orissa and Chota Nagpore divisions, the districts of Julpigoree, the Darjeeling Hills, the Terai, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and the Sundarbans. The total area under the control of the Forest Department is steadily increasing. In 1873-74, the area was 120 square miles; in 1878-79 it was 2,969 square miles, while at the close of the year 1882-83 it was 4,322 square miles, equivalent to 2,766,000 square acres. Forests are classified as "reserved" and as "open." The "reserved" forests are those under the immediate control of officers of the Forest Department, and are managed as the property of the State with a view to their conservancy and future development as a source of wealth. Their limits are demarcated after survey, cattle are excluded from grazing, and the hewing of timber is placed under stringent regulations. The "open" forests are less carefully guarded, but in them, also, certain kinds of timber trees are preserved. A third class of forest lands consists of plantations on which large sums of money are spent annually with a view to the rearing and development of timber trees.

The most extensive reserved forests of the province lie in the Sundarbans, where they cover an area of 1,581 square miles, and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, where they cover 1,345 square miles. The Julpigoree district follows with an area of 428½ square miles, and then Darjeeling with 351 square miles, Singbhoom with 312 square miles, Palamow with 187½ square miles, and Hazaribagh with 31 square miles. In addition to these, there are 43 square miles of forest in the Sonthal Pergunnahs under the management of the district officers, and extensive tracts of protected forests in the Sundarbans and the Government estate of Khoorda in Orissa, and of open forests in Julpigoree and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Fuel is plentiful in Bengal. The cow-dung, instead of being used for manure, is usually burnt to the great detriment of the recuperative powers of the soil. In Bengal, the growth of jungle is very rapid. Western Bengal is supplied partly from the Sundarbans and partly from the high lands to its west. The southern districts of Bengal draw ample supplies of cheap wood from the Sundarbans. To the northern districts bamboos and timber are brought by river from the sub-Himalayan forests. Orissa has a good deal of forest on the hills to its north, as well as a fringe of jungle on its sea-face. The open country of Chota Nagpore and Cooch Behar are both more or less surrounded by, and interspersed with, forest or jungle. Behar, however, has no forests save the copse-like jungles on its southern border. Its mango groves yield a very large annual supply of timber, and it draws sâl timber and bamboos from the Nepal forests on the Ghogra and Gunduk rivers. The supply of large timbers for Bengal comes mainly from the sâl forests of Nepal and from the teak forests of Burmah.

The system of artificial reproduction pursued by the Forest Department consists of the regular planting of open areas, and of the filling up of blanks in existing forests, technically termed cultural operations. Regular plantations have been undertaken only in the Darjeeling, Kurseong, Julpigoree, and Chittagong divisions, and their extent during 1882-83 was 1,380 acres. The trees planted are mainly oak, toon, teak, and sâl, and the total expenditure incurred was Rs. 1,08,294. Cultural operations have been carried on in the Darjeeling, Kurseong, Buxa, and Palamow forest divisions. The total area is 1,060 acres.

The following table shows the number of trees felled during the last two years both by departmental agency and permit-holders in the reserved forests:—

	By departmental agency.		By permit-holders.		Total.	
	1881-82.	1882-83.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Sál ...	3,125	3,371	176	393	3,301	3,764
Other plains trees	461	1,302	131,535	159,468	131,996	160,770
Hill trees ...	916	1,978	822	745	1,738	2,723
Total ...	4,502	6,651	132,533	160,606	137,035	167,257

The average outturn of timber and fuel per square mile of the reserved forests was 4,442 cubic feet. In addition to the timber and fuel, 17,415,767 bamboos and 4,146,632 maunds of other forest produce were removed from the forests during the year.

The working of the Forest Department shows a growing increase of receipts over charges. In 1873-74, the surplus receipts were Rs. 42,664; in 1878-79 they were Rs. 77,352, and in 1882-83 they were Rs. 3,11,775. The Government is considering the advisability of establishing fuel and fodder reserves wherever practicable in localities now destitute of such reserves. The Hazaribagh and Lohardugga districts of the Chota Nagpore division contain valuable private forests, which, with proper care, will not only prove an inexhaustible source of income to the owners, but will also confer benefits on the neighbourhood generally which has suffered from the indiscriminate destruction of timber.

Elephants.

Among the most important products of the forests of Bengal are wild elephants. Their chief use is in the timber trade and for Government transport. They are also bought up by native chiefs and land-owners as objects of display. The regular mode of catching these animals is by means of a *kheddah* or gigantic stockade, into which a wild herd is driven, then starved into submission, and tamed by animals already domesticated. The practice of capturing wild elephants in pitfalls is discouraged as cruel and wasteful. The catching of elephants now forms a Government monopoly throughout India. The shooting of them is prohibited except when they become dangerous to man or destructive to crops, and the right of capturing them is only leased out upon conditions. A special law, the Elephants' Preservation Act No. VI of 1879, regulates this licensing system. The following statement shows the number of elephants caught in the Government *kheddah* during the past five years, the number sold, and the average price realized:—

	Number caught.			Number sold.									Remarks.
				Standard elephants from 7 feet and upwards in height.			Undersized elephants from 4 feet 6½ inches to 7 feet in height.			Calves up to 4½ feet in height.			
	Elephants.	Calves.	Total.	Number.	Amount.	Average.	Number.	Amount.	Average.	Number.	Amount.	Average.	
					Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
1878-79	90	39	129	1	1,550	1,550	20	11,038	552	11	2,662	242	
1879-80	60	49	109	4*	1,980	495	...	...	...	...	...	...	* These were old and useless.
1880-81	77	17	94	27†	22,380	829	49	40,640	829	9	4,100	456	† Of these, 7 very old animals were sold for ... Rs. 1,180
1881-82	213	39	252	48‡	52,615	1,084	108	87,215	808	30	12,100	404	‡ Ditto 3 ditto ditto ... 270
1882-83	154	31	185	21§	22,000	1,048	75	58,515	780	13	4,830	372	§ Ditto 5 ditto ditto ... 410

Buffaloes.

In Bengal, the supply of buffaloes is scanty; it is very poor in the central districts, which are supplied for the most part from Beerbhoom, the north of Midnapore, Bancoorah, Purneah, and the western frontier. The Purneah breed of buffaloes is superior. In Eastern Bengal, especially in the Dacca district, the buffaloes are a very fine breed. Buffaloes are used for agriculture, but principally for draught and burden.

Cattle.

The cattle in Bengal are all of the humped or zebu kind. The milch cows of Dacca are considered to be the best in Bengal, and chiefly belong to the *deswali* (up-country) breed. The *gowalas*, or cow-keeping caste, keep herds of cows for their milk. Milk is churned into butter and afterwards burned down into ghee, and in this condition is consumed in great quantities in every part of Bengal. Milk is the favourite drink of the upper classes.

Even in the most populous districts of Bengal it cannot be said that local breeding is ordinarily insufficient to supply the local demand; but in other places, such as Chota Nagpore, the Terai, and Orissa, where pasture land is comparatively abundant, the breeding is excessive, and a constant export flows into the central districts. In almost all parts of Bengal the condition of the cattle is wretched principally in consequence of the scanty pasture and of the absence of any attempt at stall-feeding.

Cattle-poisoning.

Cases of cattle-poisoning are not now so frequent as they were some years ago. The motive for the crime, when it is committed, is the hide of the animal. The criminals are always members of the Chamar or Moochee caste. These people are hereditary skinners and leather-dealers, and under any circumstances would remove the skin of the dead cattle. The local agents bind down the Chamars by money advances and legal instruments. The total number of hides imported into Calcutta by boat, steamer, rail-road, and sea during the past three years was 6,548,371 in 1880-81, 5,872,531 in 1881-82, and 6,937,453 in 1882-83. The largest imports are from Bengal, Behar, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab. The total exports during the same period were 5,836,855 in 1880-81, 5,184,635 in 1881-82, and 5,583,884 in 1882-83. The exports are chiefly to the United Kingdom. The number of hides exported by sea during these three years was 5,789,749, valued at Rs. 1,64,37,316 in 1880-81; 5,128,752, valued at Rs. 1,52,41,506 in 1881-82; and 5,550,655, valued at Rs. 1,64,61,604 in 1882-83.

Horses.

With the exception of the western districts, there is no horse-breeding in these provinces; and in Eastern Bengal generally, and particularly in Tipperah and Mymensingh, the climate during the rains seems to be quite fatal to horses. The Bengalee *tattoo* is indigenous to almost all districts, but it is a very poor specimen of the equine race. The Burmah and Muniporee ponies are of better breed. The Bhootea ponies have also long been famed, and are held in much esteem along the frontier.

Goats.

Goats are abundant in these provinces. The she-goats are kept for their milk, while the male kids are for the most part killed and eaten as kid mutton by the Hindu and Mahomedan population. The Bengal breed of goats is very poor and indifferent; the *Jamoona paharee* goats, which are found in all the western districts, are much larger and finer animals and are a superior stock. Droves of them are brought down from Behar every cold weather into Bengal for sale.

Sheep.

In the eastern and deltaic districts of Bengal, and in parts of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division, sheep-breeding is almost unknown. Such sheep as are consumed are imported into these districts from Behar. Imported sheep do not thrive, and deteriorate greatly in a very few generations. In the Burdwan and Orissa Divisions, hardy sheep of the small Bengal breed are to be found. In parts of the Bhagulpore Division, notably in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, sheep are largely bred. But the districts of the Patna Division, especially Gya and Shahabad, are the principal homes of sheep-breeding. These districts supply the requirements of Bengal.

Poultry.

Poultry is reared to meet the demands of the European market. They are not much eaten by the natives themselves. The best poultry in Bengal is reared at Chittagong and in the district of Backergunge.

MANUFACTURES.

Throughout Bengal there are the usual local handicrafts, the productions of which are intended purely to supply local demand. Weaving and the manufacture of cotton thread

are the occupation of a large number of inhabitants of every district. The extensive imports of cloth and piece-goods from England are driving the finer native fabrics out of the market. If, however, the demand for the muslins of Dacca has been affected, native industry is still able to find profitable employment in weaving cloth of a less delicate texture from English spun and imported yarns. The growth of the jute trade has given an impetus to the manufacture of gunny-bags over all the eastern and central districts. The spinning and weaving of the fibre into cotton bales and grain and sugar bags, and its preparation in the raw state for exportation, afford occupation to thousands; and in Calcutta and its neighbourhood many mills have been established, in working which the natives have displayed great aptitude. Carpenters, blacksmiths, goldsmiths, potters, and oilmen are settled in almost every village. The manufacture of beads of all sorts, which are so universally worn as necklaces by the lower orders of Hindoos, is a very general occupation in which the women take a large part. The weaving of wicker and basket work is the special occupation of the Dome caste, and for these articles there is great demand in a community so given to agriculture. Native shoes are always made by Moochees. The *sola* weed grows with the *aous* and *amun* rice, and is manufactured into the *sola* hats or *topees* worn by Europeans, and into artificial flowers and ornaments for native ceremonies. The chief manufactures which are carried on in Bengal are as follows:—

Burdwan Division.—The silk and indigo industries are fast declining. Cotton cloth is manufactured in several parts of the division. The *dhootees* and *sarees* of Gopipur, Mirtolla, and Lalbagan, in Culna, are remarkable for their fine texture. This industry also is on the wane, owing to the large importation of English piece-goods. There are nine jute and three cotton mills in the division, which are worked by steam, and afford work to a large number of persons. In the Serampore sub-division, where weaving occupies rather a prominent place among the industries of the people, jute is spun into thread by the natives according to their own primitive method. The outturn of the jute mills last year was about 7,14,757 maunds.

The business of the cotton mills in Howrah is falling off, and is not so successful as on the western side of India, apparently on account of their distance from the cotton-producing tracts. The manufacture of gunny from jute is on the increase, and on account of the cheapness of the raw materials, this industry has become a source of great profit. There are three concerns working presses for baling jute. There are several lac factories in the Bankoora and Beerbhoom districts. In Bankoora, where there are 34 factories, shell-lac is the principal industry. At Elambazar in Beerbhoom the lac industry is carried on to a large extent. There are eight factories, all under native management; but they are not in a flourishing condition owing to the difficulty of obtaining the raw material. Utensils of brass and bell-metal are largely manufactured in Burdwan, Hooghly, and Midnapore. The brass and bell-metal articles manufactured in the Burdwan district during 1882-83 were valued at Rs. 8,47,000. The value of these articles exported during 1882-83 from Hooghly and Midnapore was Rs. 6,37,000 and Rs. 28,59,000 respectively.

Penknives and cutlery of a superior quality are manufactured at Kanchunnagore in the Burdwan district. The pottery works in the Raneegunge and Cutwa sub-divisions of the Burdwan district are increasing in importance. The Portland cement works at Rughoonath Chak in Burdwan are now yielding small quantities of cement, and the cement trade promises to be a very profitable one in this district. Cement works on a large scale are being erected at Raneegunge, but they have not yet begun to work. The Bally paper mills are doing a very good business.

Presidency Division.—The principal manufactures of the Presidency Division are indigo and date sugar. In the 24-Pergunnahs there are 34 mills and factories, giving employment to 27,000 persons. These mills produce gunny-bags, cloth, cotton yarns, bricks, rice, oils, and shell-lac. In the suburbs there is some manufacture of sulphuric acid. The extended use of kerosine oil has depressed the castor-oil presses. The other manufactures are earthen pots, iron and brass utensils, mats, cutlery, and horn work. The fine cloths of Santipore are being superseded by cheaper imported piece-goods. With the exception of one factory in Nuddea, silk is made only in Moorshed-

abad, where the industry is declining. The excellence of the silk of the latter district is so well known that it is a matter for great regret that the prices which they command in the market should not be sufficiently remunerative to make the industry thrive. In the district of Khoolna, pottery and reed mats are manufactured. Boat-building is carried on in some places on a limited scale. Salt is manufactured in a portion of the 24-Pergunnahs and the district of Khoolna.

Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division.—Jute cloth and bags are manufactured more or less in every district, but especially in Dinagepore and Pubna. Molasses is largely manufactured in Dinagepore, Rajshahye, Bogra, and Rungpore. Tea is grown only in the Julpigoree and Darjeeling districts, and cinchona in the latter district. The manufacture of silk is carried on only in Rajshahye and Bogra; but in both districts the industry is declining. Cotton cloth of good quality is made in considerable quantities in the Pubna district, and the industry is thriving owing to a demand for the fabrics. Brass and bell-metal utensils are made in large quantities in Rajshahye and Rungpore for exportation. Mats of several kinds are made in the Dinagepore, Bogra, Julpigoree, and Pubna districts. A coarse kind of arsenicated paper is manufactured in the Bogra and Pubna districts. Ivory-carving is carried on in thana Barabari in Rungpore. Gold and silver ornaments and earthen pots are manufactured more or less in every district for home use only. Mustard oil is manufactured in the Rungpore district. In the Julpigoree district rhea fibre is made up by fishermen into nets. Some samples of the fibre were sent to the Economic Museum, Calcutta, and it was pronounced to be of excellent quality.

Dacca Division.—Jute-pressing is the only industry which is extensively undertaken in this division. Next come the manufactures of cloth, shell work, cocoanut oil, sugar, brass utensils, gold and silver ornaments, mats, bricks, soap, cheese; also boat-building, carpentry, pottery, tanning, &c. Shell bracelets are not now so generally used by Hindoo women as they used to be formerly. The manufacture of cocoanut oil in the island of Dakhin Shahbazpore is declining. A kind of country cloth, called *jamdani*, is manufactured in considerable quantities, and is much used by native ladies and gentlemen. This, and other finer fabrics manufactured in and about the town of Dacca and at Bazitpore in Mymensingh, are in great request among the wealthier classes of the people of this country. The manufacture of muslins, for which Dacca was once so famous, is declining, owing to the competition of Bombay and European piece-goods; but the industry is by no means extinct.

The manufacture of molasses has increased of late years in this division, and is carried on very extensively in the Furreedpore district and the Manickgunge sub-division of the Dacca district; also to a smaller extent in Backergunge and Mymensingh. Boat-building has increased in all the districts of the division. Brass utensils are made in the Dacca and Furreedpore districts as well as at Islampore in Mymensingh. Those made at Islampore are almost the best in the country, and are in very great demand. Gold and silver ornaments are made in Dacca, which supplies nearly the whole of Bengal with jewellery, either directly or indirectly. The filigree work produced in that city is in great request. Carpentry, brick-making, and pottery are also on the increase, but they just meet the local demand. There are six tea gardens in the Dacca district, covering an area of 31 acres. The average outturn is 3,346lb.

Chittagong Division.—In the Chittagong district the principal industries are carpentry, ship and boat-building, blacksmiths', braziers', and gold and silversmiths' work. The shipwrights are nearly all Maho[illegible]ans. The braziers make the usual domestic utensils of brass and copper, a[illegible] the gold and silversmiths can execute plain or ornamental work to pattern, [illegible] do not seem to have any original designs. There are 29 tea gardens in the district. The total quantity of tea exported during the year was 1,030,927 pounds. Chittagong tea has acquired a good name for its quality. There are also two rice mills in the station. The quantity of rice milled during the past year was 2,79,000 maunds, valued at Rs. 5,35,000. There are no manufactures of importance in the other districts of this division.

Patna Division.—Silk and velvet embroideries and trinkets of various kinds are largely produced in Patna City, and iron and brass utensils, common blankets, and carpets are manufactured in the district. Silk and cotton-weaving are carried on at Futwa, and attar and perfumed oils are prepared at Barrh. Of the perfumed oils, the *chameli* is of considerable repute. In Behar, the manufacture of cotton stuffs, made in imitation of those of Dacca, still flourishes, and the fabrics are largely sold in the province. Castor-oil mills are worked at Dinapore. Glass-ware of very good quality is manufactured in Patna City. The glass-blowers have, however, taken to imitating English wares with rather doubtful success. The original graceful native patterns are going out of use, and the new-fashioned articles are less durable than the old ones. In Gya, the manufactures consist of *kansa* or bell-metal utensils, brass utensils, blankets, silk, stone articles, cotton goods, and paper, and sugar. Lac factories are being established in the district. The Shahabad district is not distinguished for the skill of its artizans. Among the minor industries are the following:—Brassware, stone vessels and images, crude and refined saltpetre, blankets, *durries*, carpets, country cloth, wooden utensils and toys, *lotas*, *hookas*, glasses, *pikdans*, and lamps made of *phool*, which is an alloy of brass, zinc, lead, &c., imported from Mozufferpore, Benares, and Ghazipore. Hoes, spades, and other agricultural implements are also manufactured. Playing-cards are made at Arrah in a peculiar fashion on tin and on fish fins. Sugar is also manufactured. Paper of an inferior quality is made at Nasrigunge, but the industry is declining. There are 22 factories, each manufacturing about 120 reams a year. In Mozufferpore, the principal manufactures are, indigo, saltpetre, and opium. The minor manufactures of the district are:—Pottery, mats of bamboo and grass, baskets of grass (*silki*), coarse paper, *petaras*, fans, umbrellas, brackets, chairs, and couches of bamboo; iron articles, as locks, knives, nails, hinges, ploughshares, sickles, spoons, and trowels; coarse cotton cloths, carpets (*satringis*), webling (*niwar*), tents and *shamianas*, coarse woollen blankets, white metal anklets, bangles, &c., lac bracelets, wristlets (*buttisi*), bangles, and rings, *hookas*, conveyances including palkee-gharies, dog-carts, ekkahs, carts, and palkees, furniture, and cloth saddles. In the district of Durbhunga the principal manufactures are indigo, sugar, tobacco, and saltpetre. The principal indigo and tobacco country is in the Tajpore sub-division. The principal sugar country is in the Madhubani sub-division, and saltpetre is spread pretty well over the district. Another manufacture is *kokti* cloth. In general appearance and firmness of texture it is very like brown Holland or the tasar silk of Bhagulpore. It is a strong, but not a cheap fabric, and is very much prized as an article of luxury by the people. Some of the finer kinds fetch very high prices, and are worn by none but the well-to-do class of Hindoos. In Sarun the chief manufactures are indigo, saltpetre, and sugar. Among the minor manufactures of the district may be noted the brass, bell-metal, and earthenware utensils, for which Sewan has a considerable reputation. Stamped floor-cloths are also manufactured in the same place. Iron utensils are also manufactured in Moharajgunj and some other places, and soap may be mentioned as another article produced in the district. The districts of Chumparun and Sarun have for their principal manufactures, indigo, sugar, and saltpetre. The minor industries are basket-making, weaving of coarse cloth, *durries*, and the like.

Bhagulpore Division.—Indigo, though somewhat declining in importance, is still the principal industry in the division. The silk industry, which is confined to the Bhagulpore and Maldah districts, is not in a flourishing condition. The sugar industry in the division is thriving. The manufacture of weapons in Monghyr has almost died out, but that of padlocks and punches is springing up. The manufacture of jute bags is flourishing in Purneah. The bags are exported to Calcutta, and are said to be preferred by natives to those made by machinery. Dusters and *durries* made in and near the town have the reputation of wearing well, and local patronage supports the industry. The brass and bell-metal ware of Nawabgunge, in the Maldah district, appears to be almost the only product of the division for which there is any active demand. Saltpetre also is manufactured in the division.

Orissa Division.—Salt is manufactured in Orissa under excise rules, and is the most important industry of the division. Owing to the increasing

importation of salt from Ganjam, the manufacture of this article is falling off in the division. The manufactures of cloth and household utensils of all kinds form the main manufactures of the Cuttack district. The gold and silver filigree work of Cuttack continues to be sought for by people of different parts of India and other countries, and commands a good price. Brass and bell-metal articles, stone vessels, and tasar cloth are made in the Balasore district. In the Pooree district the manufactures are earthenware, brass and bell-metal utensils and ornaments, wooden stools, and bedsteads. The art of statue-making, which had at one time reached a high state of perfection, is now altogether lost.

Chota Nagpore Division.—The principal manufactures of the division are lac, tasar, country cloth, pottery, and brass ornaments. Tea is also grown in three districts of the division. There are 38 gardens covering an area of 3,718 acres and yielding 290,291 lb. A few specimens of dishes and plates made of potstone were sent in 1881 to the Calcutta Exhibition of Arts, and a certificate of honour was awarded by the committee to a manufacturer for a betel-case made of potstone.

MINES AND QUARRIES.

Minerals.

Burdwan Division.—The first coal mine worked after the European methods was opened at Raneegunge in the year 1820, and there are now altogether 35 collieries, of which 22 are owned by European companies and the rest by natives, who conduct their operations either singly or on the principle of limited liability. The total area of coal-bearing rocks which is exposed is about 500 square miles, but it is possible that the real area may be twice as great. The miners are all drawn from the aboriginal race, chiefly Sonthals and Bauris, who are noted for their endurance and docility. In the larger and better mines, coal is raised by steam power from pits and galleries, and in the smaller mines or workings by hand labour from open quarries. In the Raneegunge coal-field there are more than 60 steam engines with an aggregate of over 850 horse-power at work. The output of the collieries belonging to the Bengal Coal Company in the Raneegunge sub-division was 256,000 tons last year. The coal of the Raneegunge coal field, like most Indian coals, is a non-coking bituminous coal, composed of distinct laminæ of a bright coat and of a dull earthy rock, with a large proportion of volatile matter and ash, the amount of the latter averaging about 15 per cent., as against $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. in English coal, and ranging from 8 to 25 per cent. A sample of a very pure coal from the Searsole mine gave the following results:—Volatile 40 per cent., fixed carbon 57·5 per cent., ash 2·5 per cent. The principal drawbacks to the extended employment of Raneegunge coal in India, and the reasons why the expensive English coal is still generally employed, especially by sea-going steamers on long voyages, are the following:—(1) The non-coking property of Raneegunge coal; (2) the small proportion of fixed carbon, upon which the value of coal for heating purposes depends; (3) the large proportion of ash, a larger quantity of Raneegunge coal being therefore required to perform the same duty as a smaller quantity of good English coal; (4) its liability to spontaneous ignition, which is mainly due to the large quantity of iron pyrites in the coal. The two most heavily worked lines of railway in India, viz. the East Indian and the Great Indian Peninsula, use respectively Indian and English coal, and their relative consumption is 150 tons per mile on the former as compared with 75 tons on the latter. There are also coal mines in the Bankoora district, but they are all unimportant. Several attempts have been made to work the iron ore in the Raneegunge sub-division, but hitherto without any decisive success from a commercial point of view. A company was started a few years ago, and erected two blast furnaces, but failed through want of capital. The Government has recently purchased the works from the company for Rs. 4,30,000, and is keeping them in its own hands provisionally until arrangements can be made for transferring them to a private company. The output, when the furnaces are in full working order, is estimated at 80 tons of pig iron per diem. About 300 to 350 tons of cast iron are produced every month, worth about Rs. 25,000. Some 600 persons are employed in casting railway sleepers.

Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division.—With the exception of a little stalactite of lime and copper of indifferent quality there are no mines in Julpigoree. The mineral wealth of Darjeeling was carefully investigated in 1873 by Mr. Mallet of the Geological Survey. He was of opinion that the coal measures,

which are easily exposed, are of a peculiar friable character; their chemical analysis is good, especially for the formation of artificial fuel. Lime can be procured in abundance from dolomite, tertiary limestone, and calcareous tufa. The last mentioned is now largely burnt in kilns. The Shurook copper mine in Darjeeling was leased out in 1881-82, and worked, but the lessee declares that he has lost money by the speculation. Coal is said to exist east of the Teesta, but the mines have not yet been worked.

Chittagong Division.—It is said that some silver ore has been discovered in the Lalmye hill in Tipperah. The Maharajah of Hill Tipperah, who owns the fee-simple of these hills, has carried on some experiments, but it is not known with what result.

Patna Division.—Iron has been found in the solitary rock at Behar. The ore belongs to the class of minerals known as the red homolite iron ore, and consists chiefly of ferric oxide, with a small admixture of ferrous oxide. It also contains silica and traces of lime and magnesia. The amount of iron which the stone is calculated to yield is about 63·54 per cent. The ore is fairly rich. A limited company, the members of which are all natives of Behar, was formed two years ago for the purpose of working the ore. The capital has been estimated at Rs 50,000. The company has not yet started operations, owing to the shares not having been bought up.

Bhagulpore Division.—Iron, copper, lead, talc, coal, and probably other metals and minerals abound in the country south of the Ganges, notably in Bhagulpore and the Sonthal Pergunnahs; but no attempt worth the name has yet been made to work them. Negotiations were carried on during the year between the Luchmipur Thakurani and the Katuria Thakur of the district of Bhagulpore on the one side, and a Calcutta firm on the other, in view of the cession of mining rights, but the royalties demanded were so exorbitant that the proposal fell through. There are 14 coal mines in the district of the Sonthal Pergunnahs. Of these only one is worked by a lessee, but it is not known with what result. Steps are being taken to establish a mining company at Deoghur. The company has obtained a lease of the Behroki mines in the Rohini estate for a term of 149 years. The area of land covered by the lease is 6,057 beeghas, and the royalties agreed to are:—on gold, 6 per cent.; on silver, 5 per cent.; on copper, lead, and other ores, 4 per cent. In Monghyr, slate is quarried with success to meet a local demand, and the stone quarries of Rajmehal are well worked by the Rajmehal Stone Company.

Orissa Division.—In the Khoorda sub-division of the Pooree district, quartz is found. The coal-fields of Talcher and Ungool have remained unutilized, and must remain so till we can have a railway to Orissa. Iron ores exist in the hilly tracts of Athmalik, Talcher, and Bamunghatty in Mohurbhunj, and are worked on a small scale by the natives.

Chota Nagpore Division.—Coal abounds in many parts of the division, the total area of coal-bearing strata being rather over 5,000 square miles. Copper mines exist in Palgunge, in Hazaribagh, and in some parts of Singbhoom, and mica mines in Gowan, in Hazaribagh, and pergunnahs Pandra and Jheria, in Manbhoom, and in portions of Singbhoom. Lead ores are found in the south of Manbhoom, in Singbhoom, and in Hazaribagh; but though masses of ore embedded in clay or gravel, evidently deposited by floods which happened in very remote ages, are found, no vein of galena has yet been discovered. The coal mines at Rajhara, in Palamow, are still worked, and the coal is supplied to the Dehree Workshops. Borings in the Daltongunge coal-fields have disclosed four or five distinct strata yielding coal, which has been pronounced to be equal to the best Raneegunge coal. In Manbhoom, the coal-field has not yet been worked in consequence of its distance from the East Indian Railway. It is believed to contain good coal, and to be particularly easy to work, as the coal-bearing strata lie near the surface, and dip at a remarkably small angle. It is hoped that the new line of railway from Sitarampore to the Central Provinces will render the coal resources in Manbhoom available. The output of coal from the two chief mines in Gobindpore during 1882-83 was—Laikdih 46,623 tons, Kunnidubhi 82,692 tons. Besides these, several smaller mines were worked by private persons. In Singbhoom, copper mines exist in several places. Some of the mines were worked about 20 years ago, but have been abandoned, as they did not pay. The mica mines in Manbhoom are not pro-

worked, nor are they believed to be paying. Iron ores are extracted in many parts of the division, notably in Singbhoom, and manufactured into field implements. In the neighbourhood of the Pachete hill, Ritter Von Schwarz, Superintendent of the Bengal Iron Works at Burrakur, has found a deposit of rich magnetic iron ore. Limestone of good or fair quality is also said to be found in the same neighbourhood, while gold is collected in small quantities by washing more or less all over the Singbhoom district, particularly in the hill tracts on the west and in pergunnah Dhulbhoom; also by washing the sands of the Subernarekha and Karkari rivers in pergunnah Patkoom in Manbhoom.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary of the Civil Administration of Bengal.

Early possessions of the British in Bengal.

It was in the year 1640 that two ships from England to Bengal first opened the trade of the East India Company to this part of India, under a patent for exemption from customs obtained from the Emperor Shah Jehan through the good service of a Surgeon named Broughton, sent to attend the Emperor's daughter from Surat.

Calcutta and adjacent villages, 1698.

In 1698 the Prince Azeem-u-Shah, grandson of Aurungzebe, and Soubahdar of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, allowed the Company's Agents to purchase the talookdar's right to the three villages of Calcutta, Sootanutty, and Govindpore, subject to an annual revenue of Rs. 495. The transactions of the Company during this period were entirely commercial, and up to 1707, when Calcutta was declared a Presidency, it was dependent upon Madras, where there was a fort and garrison which the Company had not been allowed to maintain in Bengal. Moreover, although in 1717 the United Company obtained a royal grant from the Emperor Ferokhseer granting them, besides privileges of trade, permission to purchase the talookdaree of 38 additional villages adjacent, subject to an annual revenue of Rs. 8,121, no independent authority was conveyed to the Company, nor does any appear to have been claimed.

The treaty with Seraj-ud-Dowlah in February 1757, after the recapture of Calcutta, by the fourth article of which the Company were "allowed to fortify Calcutta in such manner as they might esteem proper," and by the fifth of which it was stipulated "that siccas be coined at Alinagur (Calcutta) in the same manner as at Moorshedabad," with a general promise of amity, may be considered to have first established the Company's territorial character in Bengal. On the 4th June 1757, moreover, by a treaty entered into with Jaffer Ally Khan, this agreement was confirmed, and the Company's zemindary extended six hundred yards without the ditch of Calcutta, and over the 24-Pergunnahs south of Calcutta as far as Calpee.

24-Pergunnahs, 1757.

Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, 1760.

In the treaty concluded with the Nawab Meer Mahomed Cossim Ally Khan on the 27th September 1760, it was agreed that Cossim should succeed as Nawab of the Soubahdary of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa; that the English army should be ready to assit him in the management of affairs, and that the lands of the chaklas (districts) of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong should be assigned for all the Company's charges. A complete and full cession of these three districts was then effected and confirmed again by Jaffer Ally Khan in the treaty for his reinstatement dated 10th July 1763.

Grant of Dewanny.

August 12th, 1765. Administration, however, carried on by native agency until the Company stood forth as Dewan in 1772.

After the expulsion of Cossim Ally Khan and the decisive battle of Buxar, the civil authority over Bengal, Behar, and Orissa* was conferred in perpetuity on the East India Company by the Emperor Shah Alum, under a royal grant in August 1765. The Nawab of Bengal recognized this grant under an agreement dated 30th September in the same year, and consented to accept a fixed stipend for the maintenance of himself and his household.

In 1766 Lord Clive, then President of the Council of Fort William, took his place as Dewan, and in concert with the Nawab, who sat as Nazim, opened

* The Orissa of the last century included only the district of Midnapore and a part of Hooghly, or more accurately the tract of country lying between the rivers Suburnorekha and Roopnarain. Orissa Proper was conquered and annexed from the Mahrattas by Lord Wellesley in 1803.

the *pooncah*, or ceremonial of commencing the annual collections in durbar, held at Motijeel, near Moorshedabad.

But though the civil and military power of the country and the resources for maintaining it were assumed on the part of the East India Company, it was not thought prudent to vest the immediate management of the revenue, or the administration of justice, in the European servants. There was a resident at this time at the Nawab's court, who inspected the management of the Naib Dewan, and a chief who superintended the collections of the province of Behar under the immediate management of a distinguished native, Schitab Roy; but with these exceptions there were no other Covenanted servants of the Company in the interior except those who were administering the zemindary lands of Calcutta and the 24-Pergunnahs, and the ceded districts of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, which had again been confirmed to the Company in perpetuity by a royal grant.

Supervisors, 1769.

In 1769 Supervisors were appointed by Mr. Hastings, with powers of superintending the native officers employed in collecting the revenue or administering justice in different parts of the country; and councils with superior authority were in 1770 established at Moorshedabad and Patna. The Supervisors were furnished with detailed instructions for obtaining an account of the provinces; the state, produce, and capacity of the lands; the amount of the revenues, the cesses, or arbitrary taxes, and of all demands whatsoever which are made on the cultivators; the manner of collecting them, and the gradual rise of every new impost; the regulation of commerce, and the administration of justice. The information elicited by these inquiries showed the internal government to be in a state of profound disorder, and the people to be suffering great oppression. Nevertheless seven years elapsed from the acquisition of the Dewanny before the Government deemed itself competent to remedy these defects. It was not till 1772 that the Court of Directors resolved to "stand forth as Dewan, and by the agency of the Company's servants [illegible] make upon themselves the entire care and management of the revenues."

Mr. Hastings' Regulations, 1772.

By the adoption of a plan then proposed by Mr. Hastings and four members of his council, the institutions of the internal government were [illegible] as follows:—

REVENUE.

In the Revenue Department at the Presidency, a Board of Revenue was appointed, consisting of the President and Council, with an Accountant-General and assistants. The exchequer and treasury were removed from Moorshedabad to Calcutta. In respect to the provinces it was resolved that the Supervisors should now be designated Collectors, with each of whom a native officer, chosen by the Board and styled Dewan, was joined in the superintendence of the revenues.

Supervisors designated Collectors.

JUDICIAL.

Under the regulations framed for the Judicial Department, two courts were instituted for each provincial division or collectorship, one by the name of Dewanny or Civil Court, for the cognizance of civil causes; the other named Fouzdary or Criminal Court, for the trial of crimes and misdemeanours. The Collector presided over the Civil Court, attended by the provincial native Dewan and other officers. In the Criminal Court the kazee and mooftee of the district, and two moulvees, sat to expound the Mahomedan law, and to determine how far delinquents were guilty of its violation; but it was the Collector's duty to attend to the proceedings of this court so far as to see that all necessary witnesses were summoned and examined, and that the decision passed was fair and impartial. The Collector had no further concern in the criminal administration. Appeals from these courts were allowed to two superior courts established at the chief seat of Government,—one under the denomination of Dewanny Sudder Adawlut, or Chief Court, of Civil Judicature; the other, the Nizamut Sudder Adawlut, or Chief Court of Criminal Justice.

Collectors preside over Civil and Revenue Courts.

Native Criminal Courts.

Sudder Court.

The Chief Civil Court consisted of the President and Members of Council, assisted by native officers. In the Chief Criminal Court a Chief Officer of justice presided, appointed by the Nazim, and assisted by the head kazee and

mooftee and three eminent moulvees. Over this latter court, however, a control was vested in the President and Council, similar to what was exercised by the Collectors in the provinces.

A short experience, however, showed that the superintendence over criminal justice, when exercised by the President, involved too heavy duties, and in October 1775 the Court of Nizamut Adawlut was moved back to Moorshedabad, and placed under the control of the well-known Mahomed Reza Khan, who was appointed Naib Nazim.

Collectors withdrawn.

In the meantime (1774) the European Collectors were also recalled from the provinces, and native aumils were appointed in their stead. A new system of police was introduced. Native officers styled fouzdars were appointed to the fourteen districts or local jurisdictions into which Bengal was divided. The superintendence of the collection of the revenue, removed from the Collectors, was vested in six Provincial Councils which were established at Calcutta, Burdwan, Dacca, Moorshedabad, Dinagepore, and Patna. The administration of civil justice was on the same principle transferred to the aumils.

Provincial Revenue Councils established, 1774.

Vital changes were, however, speedily effected in these arrangements. The constitution of the Dewanny Adawlut was transformed by the establishment in 1780, in each of the six great provincial divisions, of a court of justice distinct from, and independent of, the Revenue Council. Over this court a Covenanted servant presided, whose jurisdiction extended over all civil and rent cases. These six divisions were in their civil aspect augmented shortly to eighteen, in consequence of the inconvenience experienced from the too extensive jurisdiction of the six before instituted. The Judges of these courts were wholly unconnected with the Revenue Department, except in the four frontier districts of Chittra (or Hazareebaugh), Bhaugulpore, Islamabad (or Chittagong), and Rungpore, where, for local reasons, the offices of Judge, Magistrate, and Collector were vested in the same person, but with a provision that the judicial authority should be considered distinct from, and independent of, the revenue functions.

Provincial Civil Judges established independent of Revenue Courts, 1780.

Simultaneously with the extension of the civil courts, the Provincial Revenue Councils were abolished, and all the revenue affairs of the provinces brought down gradually to the Presidency, there to be administered by five of the most able and experienced of the civil servants, under the designation of a "Committee of Revenue." One President of each Provincial Council was, however, to remain officiating as Collector under the Committee of Revenue until further orders, as likewise were the four Judge-Magistrate-Collectors, who had been separately stationed in the frontier and least civilized districts.

Provincial Revenue Councils abolished; Collectorships reinstituted, 1781.

The establishment of fouzdars and thannahdars, introduced in 1774, was also abolished in 1781, and the eighteen Civil Judges "were invested with the power, as Magistrates, of apprehending dacoits and persons charged with the commission of any crime or acts of violence within their respective jurisdictions." They were not, however, to try or punish such persons, but "were to send them immediately to the daroga of the nearest Fouzdary Court, with a charge in writing setting forth the grounds on which they had been apprehended." They had merely powers to act as an executive police, leaving the trial and the infliction of punishment to the native Mahomedan officials. Provision was at the same time made for cases where, by especial permission of the Governor-General and Council, "certain zemindars might be invested with such part of the police jurisdiction as they formerly exercised under the ancient Mogul Government." In such cases the European Judge in his capacity of Magistrate, the daroga of the Criminal Court, and the zemindar were to exercise a concurrent authority for the prevention of crimes.

Civil Judges vested with executive magisterial powers, 1781.

LORD CORNWALLIS.

Union of the offices of Collector, Civil Judge, and Magistrate, 1786.

Under intructions which Lord Cornwallis brought with him from England in 1786, the revenue and judicial institutions of the country were again modified. The Committee of Revenue changed its designation to that of Board of Revenue. Its authority and functions were continued. The

to hold judical powers, and were occasionally so employed. But Regulation VII of 1831 and Act III of 1835 were both repealed by Act VIII of 1868, and under the present law Commissioners have no such powers, as all Sessions Judges and officers invested with powers of Sessions Judges are appointed under the rules of the new Code of Criminal Procedure.

Civil Judges divested of magisterial powers. Union of Magistrate and Collector—1831.

The Judges under Lord William Bentinck's arrangement held a jail delivery every month. But the Judges were also the Magistrates, and as such it became evident that they were unable to cope with their additional duties. It was considered (1831) necessary to divest them of their magisterial responsibilities, and these were accordingly transferred to the Collector. This was the creation of the present unit of the administration, the Magistrate and Collector, or executive head of each district.

Under Regulation VIII of 1833 the appointment of additional Judges was sanctioned, who were to perform any part of the duties of the District Judges to which they might be appointed.

Native Civil Judges.

In 1831 Lord William Bentinck established also a higher grade of native Judgeships. Previously to this period there had been in fact but two classes of native Judges, with very limited powers and small salaries. The higher class was known as "Sudder Ameens," the lower as "Moonsiffs." The Moonsiffs, originally denominated Commissioners, had been appointed by Lord Cornwallis to relieve the pressure on the European Judges. In 1803, the office of Sudder Ameen was instituted, with a jurisdiction extending to suits of Rs. 100. In 1821, after some intermediate enlargement of the powers of both classes, the Moonsiffs had been empowered to try cases extending to Rs. 150, whilst the Sudder Ameens took cognizance of cases to the amount of Rs. 500. In 1827 the authority of the latter class of officers had been doubled. Lord William Bentinck now established a superior class of judicial officers, known as Principal Sudder Ameens, with enlarged powers and higher salaries. They were subsequently authorized to try cases involving property to any amount, and an appeal lay from them to the European Judges. The Small Cause Courts in Bengal were established by Sir John Peter Grant under Act XLII of 1860. In 1867 the Judges of the Small Cause Courts and the Principal Sudder Ameens and Moonsiffs were amalgamated into one service. Small Cause Court Judges and Principal Sudder Ameens have since been called indifferently Subordinate Judges, and are eligible alike for Small Cause Court work or for the work of the ordinary Civil Courts.

The office of Uncovenanted Deputy Collector was established under Regulation IX of 1833. The appointment was, in the first instance, open only to "natives of India of any class or religious persuasion," but was extended by Act X of 1843 to all persons of whatever religion, place of birth, descent, or colour.

Up to 1834 the whole of the Bengal Presidency, including Assam, Benares and the ceded and conquered provinces of Upper India, was directly administered by the Governor-General of Bengal in Council. In 1834, the Governor-General in Council became Governor-General of India, and Bengal was then governed by the Governor-General in the capacity of Governor of Bengal without a Council. At the same time, power was given to create a separate Governor of Agra, which was shortly modified, a Lieutenant-Governor being substituted for a Governor in 1836. After this reform, no change was made in the territorial jurisdiction of the Lower Provinces for forty years. In 1874, however, it having been found that the charge of the province of Assam formed an inconvenient addition to the heavy work arising from the administration of Bengal, with which it had little in common, it was resolved to carry out a change which had been proposed some years previously. In February 1874 the Assam division, together with the three districts of Sylhet, Cachar, and the Garo Hills, were separated from Bengal, and formed into a separate Administration, on the model of the Central Provinces and British Burmah. From this time the civil history of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa becomes entirely separate from that of the Upper Provinces on the one hand and that of Assam on the other.

Establishment of the Subordinate Executive Service—1843.

The machinery of the revenue administration and civil justice having been strengthened, the expediency of a more extensive employment of uncovenanted agency in the criminal branch of the Judicial Department forced itself into notice. But it was not till 1843 that an Act was framed by the Legislative Council, empowering the Government to appoint in any district one or more uncovenanted Deputy Magistrates, with or without police powers, as might be determined.

Separation of the offices of Magistrate and Collector—1837.

The union of the offices of Magistrate and Collector, as established under Lord William Bentinck was, however, only of temporary duration. It so happened that at that time the business of a Collector became engrossing and onerous, while the duties of the Magistracy were comparatively disregarded. The additional work imposed by the operations for the resumption of revenue-free tenures was treated as if it had been permanent. In 1837, Lord Auckland and the Court of Directors sanctioned the separation of the offices of Magistrate and Collector.

The progress of separation of the office of Magistrate and Collector went on gradually until 1845. In that year the magisterial and fiscal offices were disunited everywhere except in three districts of Orissa and in the independent Joint-Magistracies of Pubna, Maldah, Bogra, Bulooah (or Noakhally), Furreedpore, Bancoorah, Baraset, and Chumparun. The salaries of the separated Collectors were uniformly fixed at Rs. 23,000 a year, except in Bhaugulpore, Monghyr, and Beerbhoom, where they were Rs. 18,000; but the salaries of Magistrates, which it was intended at the time of separation should be in two grades, of Rs. 18,000 and 12,000, were reduced in 1842 by order of the Court of Directors to Rs. 10,800 per annum.

At this point may be noticed the creation of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal. In 1854 the Government of Bengal was entrusted to a Lieutenant-Governor, and the personal connection with the Government of India, which had resulted from the union of the offices of Governor-General of India and Governor of Bengal, ceased to exist. Henceforth the Government of India became entirely distinct from that of Bengal.

Reunion of Magistrates and Collectors—1859.

In 1859, the offices of Magistrate and Collector were again united. This reunion had been the subject of anxious deliberation in India for six years before it was finally resolved upon. The measure was strongly advocated by Sir Frederick Halliday, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, by Lord Dalhousie, and by Lord Canning, and was as strongly opposed by Mr. Grant. It was sanctioned by Lord Stanley, who was then Secretary of State for India, in his despatch No. 15, dated 14th April 1859. He directed (1) "that the offices of Magistrate and Collector, where now disunited in Bengal, should be combined in the same person, and that such of the covenanted officers as are now Magistrates, and are not absorbed in the higher office, should be employed as Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, but without any decrease of salary; and (2) that the Joint-Magistrate in each district should ordinarily have the superintendence of the police under the general control of the Magistrate." These orders were rapidly carried out in all the districts of Bengal where the appointments were separate.

The independent Joint-Magistrates abolished.

At the same time seven of the eight independent Joint-Magistracies already alluded to were established full Magistracies and Collectorates. At first these were offshoots from large districts, and were created as *quasi* sub-divisions in the early part of this century to stem the tide of crime and dacoity in localities remote from the head-quarters station. The Joint-Magistrates of these sub-divisions, from exercising a joint-jurisdiction with the Magistrate of the district, gradually came to exercise independent criminal powers, but in revenue matters they never were invested with more than the powers of a Deputy Collector, and the land revenue always continued to be paid at the head-quarters treasury. Of these eight Joint-Magistracies and Deputy Collectorates, four were upon Rs. 18,000 per annum and four upon Rs. 12,000. At the time of the reunion of the offices of Magistrate and Collector, Baraset was abolished and reduced to an ordinary sub-division.

The present Joint-Magistrates were created by Lord William Bentinck in order to afford more efficient aid to the Magistrate-Collectors than could be given to them by mere Assistants vested only with the powers of an Assistant under the Regulations. Lord W. Bentinck established two classes of Covenanted officers subordinate to the district officer—one, a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector on a salary of Rs. 1,000 a month; the other a Head Assistant, on Rs. 700. The latter was abolished by Government order dated August 16th 1836, and a second grade of Joint-Magistracy was constituted in its stead on the same salary, but with the full powers of a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector. The first were appointed Magistrates when the separation of the offices had been resolved upon, and now correspond to our first grade Joint-Magistrates. The salary of the appointment, as has been intimated, was reduced to Rs. 900 a month in 1842.

The present grade of Joint-Magistrates.

In 1861, shortly after the reunion of Collectorates and Magistracies, the police was established as a separate department under the Magistrate; and District Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Police were appointed to discipline the force. An Inspector-General and Deputy Inspectors-General were placed at the head of the police to supervise and inspect the department.

The Bengal Police Act, 1861.

At this time the 36 regulation districts in these provinces were in charge of Magistrates and Collectors receiving the following salaries—

Modification of grades of Magistrate and Collector—1860.

In 3 districts	...	...	...	Rs. 28,000	per annum.
„ 22 „	...	...	...	„ 23,000	„
„ 7 „	...	...	...	„ 18,000	„
„ 4 „	...	...	...	„ 12,000	„

These salaries were local, the salaries of particular classes being attached to particular districts. To remove the adminstrative inconveniences which resulted from this arrangement, Sir John Peter Grant proposed in that year the following changes: firstly, that the salaries of Magistrates and Collectors be made *personal*, instead of *local*, by throwing these officers into grades; and, secondly, that there be only two instead of four such grades or classes of Collector and Magistrate, with corresponding rates of salary. He provided for 20 Magistrate-Collectors in the first grade, on Rs. 23,000 per annum; one Magistrate and one Collector at the 24-Pergunnahs who, each of them drew the full salary of Rs. 23,000; and 15 Magistrate-Collectors in the 2nd grade, on Rs. 18,000—altogether 37 officers. The separate appointments of Magistrate and Collector in the 24-Pergunnahs were amalgamated in April 1865 into a single first grade Magistrate-Collector. The number was thus reduced to 36. At the same time two officers were taken from the second grade and added to the first grade, and until the past year there were, therefore, 23 Magistrate-Collectors sanctioned in the first grade and 13 in the second grade. Subsequently in 1873, in pursuance of the policy initiated by Sir George Campbell for separating the executive and judicial branches of the civil service—and equalizing the rates of salary in both, a new gradation was introduced. The 36 Magistrate-Collectors were divided into three grades. The first grade included 15 officers on Rs. 2,250 per mensem; the second grade 15 officers on Rs. 1,800 per mensem, and the new third grade 6 officers on Rs. 1,500 per mensem. Two additions have since that time, in consequence of the abolition of the office of Commissioner of Customs, and the formation of the new district of Khulna. There are now 15 officers in the first grade, 16 in the second, and seven in the third.

All the above has reference to what are called the regulation provinces.

The Non-Regulation Provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal consist of (1) new conquests or cessions to which the regulations were never extended; (2) tracts of country formerly subject to the general regulations, but which were removed from their operation by special enactments; and (3) semi-independent or tributary estates, administered in the Political Department. Act XIV of 1874 has not, however, been extended to the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

NON-REGULATION PROVINCES.

* These three officers were the Magistrate-Collectors of Pooree, Balasore, and Cuttack, who were Salt Agents as well.

These provinces are now known as the "Scheduled Districts" under Act XIV of 1874. They formerly consisted of the following:—

I.—The Julpigoree and Darjeeling districts.
II.—The Hill Tracts of Chittagong.
III.—The Sonthal Pergunnahs.
IV.—The Chota Nagpore Division.
V.—The mehals of Angul and Banki.

Under Act XXV of 1881, the mehal of Banki was annexed to the regulation district of Cuttack.

First de-regulationizing law—Regulation X of 1822.

Regulation X of 1822 established the principle that there were races of people within these territories entirely distinct from the ordinary population, to whose circumstances the system of Government established by the general regulations was inapplicable. Such were the mountaineers of Bhaugulpore, the Paharia community, for the reclaiming of whom special arrangements were carried out by Augustus Cleveland before the introduction of the regular system. The uncertain and semi-barbarous territory on the north-eastern frontier of Rungpore was de-regulationized under Regulation X, 1822. The existing rules for the administration of civil and criminal justice were suspended, and a Commissioner was appointed with full power to conclude arrangements with the Chiefs, and to conduct the entire administration of the tract under the Governor-General in Council. This law was the germ of the late non-regulation administration.

Assam.

Assam and its dependencies were annexed during the first Burmese war in 1824, and were formally ceded by the Burmese by the Treaty of 24th February 1826, but it was only by degrees that a regular administration was established there, Upper Assam not having been regularly occupied till a comparatively late date. The Commissioner of the north-east frontier became Commissioner of Assam. The separation of this province from the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, and its formation into a Local administration under the direct supervision of the Government of India have already been described.

Cooch Behar.

A Commissioner for carrying on the administration of the Cooch Behar State was repeatedly appointed in the last century, and the early part of the present century. Finally, in 1863, a Commissioner was appointed during the minority of the Rajah. In 1866 Cooch Behar was raised into a Non-Regulation Commissionership; and the districts of Darjeeling, from the Bhagulpore division, and Goalparah and the Garo Hills, which had been under the Assam division, were placed within the new jurisdiction. At the same time the northern portion of Rungpore was transferred to this division, and eventually was united with the submontane country ceded by the Bhuteas, forming the district of Julpigoree. In 1868 the judicial administration of the Goalparah district was placed under the Judicial Commissioner of Assam, the administration in other matters remaining with the Divisional Commissioner. In 1874 on the formation of Assam into a separate Administration the Cooch Behar Division was abolished as a separate charge—and such of its districts as were still attached to the Government of Bengal were transferred to the Rajshahye division, thenceforward known as the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar division. In 1883, the Maharajah attained his majority and the State was released from the direct control of the Commissioner.

Darjeeling.

A part of the hill portion of the district of Darjeeling was ceded by the Rajah of Sikkim in 1835. The Morung low-land under the hills, and another portion of the hills, were taken from him in 1850 in consequence of his having seized and detained in confinement the Superintendent of Darjeeling while travelling peaceably through his country. The portion of the hills known as British Bhutan was ceded by the Bhuteahs after the Bhuteah war in 1865, and annexed to Darjeeling. The district was placed under the charge of an officer called Superintendent whose designation has since been changed to that of Deputy Commissioner. The Criminal and Civil Procedure Codes were extended to Darjeeling in 1863. The police administration of the district was conducted

under Regulation XX of 1817 until the 25th May 1864, when Act V of 1861 was introduced.

The civil history of Cachar, the Khasi and Jynteah Hills, the Garo Hills and the Naga Hills belongs to the history of the Assam Administration—and need not be further noticed here.

HILL TRACTS OF CHITTAGONG.

The Hill Tracts of Chittagong were removed from the operation of the general regulations by Act XXII of 1860. The excepted tract was placed under an officer called Superintendent (now Deputy Commissioner), and a few short rules prescribed for his guidance in the administration of civil and criminal justice and the collection of revenue, which are still acted upon. The Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes have not been extended to this tract. The Scheduled Districts Act XIV of 1874 has not yet been extended to this district and Regulation I of 1873—a regulation for the peace and government of certain districts on the Eastern Frontier of Bengal has been in force there since the 1st of November 1873.

CHOTA NAGPORE.

The South-Western Frontier Agency was called into existence as a Non-Regulation Province after the suppression of the Kol insurrection in 1831-32 by Regulation XIII of 1833. By this Regulation portions of the Ramgurh district, all the jungle mehals except Senpahari, Sherghur, and Bishenpore, and Dhulbhoom from the Midnapore district, were removed from the operation of the general regulations; and the administration of civil and criminal justice, the collection of revenue, the superintendence of the police, the land revenue, customs, excise, stamps, and every branch of Government of the excepted tracts were placed under an officer called the Agent to the Governor-General. The Governor-General in Council was declared competent to prescribe any rules he deemed advisable for the guidance of the Agent and the officers subordinate to him.

Subsequently the Tributary Mehals noted in the margin* and Singbhoom were placed under the Agent. Of these Tributary Mehals, those which are noted† are still attached to the South-Western Frontier Agency of Chota Nagpore Division, and the rest have been transferred to the Central Provinces. By Act XX of 1854 the designation of the officer in charge was changed from Agent to Commissioner, and that of his province from South-Western Frontier Agency to Chota Nagpore. The Deputy or Judicial Commissioner, as he is now styled, was appointed in 1843. The other subordinate appointments were at that time two Principal Assistants on Rs. 1,000, two First Class Assistants on Rs. 750, and one Second Class Assistant on Rs. 500.

* Sumbulpore, Sonepore, Sarunghur, Suktor, Gangpore, Bamra, Bonai, Rehracole, Raighur, Patna, Borasamber, Bindra, Nowagurh, Khurriar, Phooljhur, Sirgoojah, Oodeypore, Jushpore, Korea, Chang Bhukar.

† Sirgoojah, Korea, Oodeypore, Chang Bhukar, Jushpore, Gangpore, Bonai.

In 1833 a few short rules were issued by Government for the guidance of the Agent, which directed that, pending the issue of detailed instructions, the Agent and officers subordinate to him were to be guided by the "rules heretofore in force for the conduct of all local duties."

These criminal rules continued in force till they were superseded by the Criminal Procedure Code (Act XXV of 1861), which was extended to the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division when passed. It was subsequently held in 1864 that the Code was extended to so much only of the Singbhoom district as is comprised in Dhulbhoom and the Kolhan, the remaining estates being administered in the Political Department. The now Code, Act X of 1882 is in force throughout the division.

As regards the administration of civil justice, a set of rules was proposed by the Agent at the same time that criminal rules were laid before Government, but orders on them were suspended pending the promulgation of a Bill on the subject then under preparation. This Bill was never passed, and till Act VIII of 1859 was extended to the division there was no specific law or rule to guide the procedure of the civil courts in the province, but they followed the regulations, except in points where some order of the Agent interposed.

From the first creation of the agency the ordinary laws for the sale of land for debt or arrears of rent were regarded as inapplicable to the province, and the rules proposed by Captain Wilkinson provided that no sale or alienation, or even mortgage of hereditary or moveable property was to take place

without the sanction of the Agent. This rule was until recently always acted on as regards sales, and formed one of the most peculiar features of the agency; and in extending the old Civil Procedure Code to the districts of Hazareebaugh, Lohardugga, and Manbhoom a proviso to this effect was added to the notification. That Code was not extended to Singbhoom, but was considered in force in Dhulbhoom of that district. The new Code of Civil Procedure (Act XIV of 1882), has now however been extended to the scheduled districts without any such proviso, and in June 1882 a notification was issued, withdrawing (with a small exception) the restrictions that had hitherto been imposed on the sale of immoveable property for debt or arrears of rent. The remainder of Singbhoom *quoad* civil rules, is administered in the Political Department, as are the Tributary Mehals; the appeals from the Chiefs and Deputy Commissioner lying to the Commissioner, not to the Judicial Commissioner and High Court.

SONTHAL PERGUNNAHS.

The inquiry into the causes of the Sonthal insurrection in 1855 having brought to light the unsuitability of the regulation system to the tract of country now designated the Sonthal Pergunnahs, inhabited by the Sonthals and other rude tribes, who are far behind the Bengalees in civilization, these pergunnahs were exempted from the operation of the general regulations by Act XXXVII of 1855, except in regard to civil suits above Rs. 1,000 in value, the collection of revenue in permanently-settled estates, the sale of lands for arrears of revenue, &c.

The excepted tract was placed under the Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division, assisted by a Deputy Commissioner and a number of Assistant and Extra Assistant Commissioners.

In 1856, a few simple rules for civil and criminal administration were laid down for the guidance of the Sonthal officers.

The rules in regard to criminal matters remained in operation till 1862, when the Penal Code was introduced; and although the Criminal Procedure Code was not formally extended to these pergunnahs, the Sonthal officers were directed to act in accordance with its spirit. The Sonthal Pergunnahs drifted more or less under the ordinary law and procedure of the regulation districts, the Rent Law, the Civil Procedure Code, the Stamp Act, and other Acts were considered to be in force, and the Deputy Commissioner was practically transformed into Judge. In 1871, however, serious difficulties arose in Santhalia, and it was felt that the pergunnahs really required a peculiar and simpler form of administration than the rest of Bengal. The Lieutenant-Governor recommended that they should be de-regulationized and brought within the scope of the Act 33 Vic., Cap. 3. This measure received the assent of the Governor-General and the Secretary of State, and a special regulation for the peace and good Government of the pergunnahs was sanctioned.

TRIBUTARY MEHALS OF CUTTACK.

The Tributary Mehals of Cuttack were exempted from the operation of the regulations by Sections 36, 13, and 11 of Regulations XII, XIII, and XIV of 1805. This exemption was recognized on the ground of expediency only, and it was held that there was nothing in the nature of the connection with the proprietors that would preclude their being brought under the ordinary jurisdiction of the courts if it should ever be thought advisable.

The office of Superintendent was established in 1814, and he was directed to endeavour to establish such control over the conduct of the zemindars as might prevent the commission of crimes and outrages.

Regulation XI of 1816 appears to be the only law by which the Superintendent was invested with any judicial authority, and by that law claims to inheritance and succession among the Rajahs are disposed of.

In 1821, the Government ruled that the interference of the Superintendent should be chiefly confined to matters of a political nature, to the suppression of feuds and animosities prevailing between the Rajahs of adjoining mehals, or between the members of their families, or between the Rajahs and their subordinate feudatories, to the correction of systematic oppression and cruelty practised by any of the Rajahs or by their officers towards the inhabitants, to the cognizance of any apparent gross violation by them of their duties of allegiance and subordination, and generally to important points, which if not attended to

might lead to violent and general outrage and confusion, or to contempt of the paramount authority of the British Government.

The Penal Code was declared applicable to the Tributary States by an order of the Government of India dated the 18th December 1860.

Under orders of the Government of Bengal, dated the 11th March 1863, the criminal authorities were directed to be guided in their proceedings as closely as possible by the spirit of the Criminal Procedure Code. Section 13 of Regulation XIII of 1805 is still in force.

The *kila* of Banki has, as already mentioned, recently been annexed to the regulation district of Cuttack. The Estate of Angul is administered direct by Government and the Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes as well as Act V of 1861, are in force there.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

The separation of the Government of Bengal from the Government of India and the North-Western Provinces and from the Administration of Assam has been already noticed in the course of this narrative; but it will be convenient to recite here more exactly the origin of the present form of Government.

The constitution, origin, and extent of the Lieutenant Governor's authority.

Sub-division of Bengal Presidency, 1834

Governor of Agra

Governor-General appointed Governor of Bengal.

The Bengal Presidency was divided into two portions by Act of Parliament in 1834, the titles selected being "Fort William in Bengal" and "Agra." Agra was to be placed under a separate Governor, but the Governor-General of Bengal (created by this same statute, Governor-General of India) was declared to be the Governor of Fort William in Bengal. It was left optional with the Court of Directors either to appoint a Council to assist the newly-created Governor, or to leave the executive Government to be administered by such Governor alone; and the Governors or Governors in Council were to "have all the rights, powers, duties, functions, immunities whatsoever, not in any wise repugnant to this Act, which the Governors of Fort St. George and Bombay in their respective Councils now have in their respective presidencies."

Deputy Governor of Bengal.

The Governor-General was also empowered to appoint a Deputy Governor from among the ordinary Members of his Council, who would be invested with all the powers, and perform all the duties of the Government during his absence.

In 1835 another Act was passed, which declared that whereas much difficulty had arisen in dividing Bengal into two presidencies, "and the same would be attended with a large increase of charge," the Court of Directors might suspend the execution of so much of the said Act.

By Section 2 the Governor-General in Council was authorized to "appoint a Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, now under the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, and from time to time declare and limit the extent of the territories so placed under such Lieutenant-Governor, and the extent of the authority to be exercised by such Lieutenant-Governor."

Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces—1836.

This power of suspension was exercised, and the formal division of the Bengal Presidency into two separate and distinct presidencies, once arrested, has never been again carried out. On the 29th February 1836 the first Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces was appointed "with the same powers as have heretofore been exercised by the Government of Agra."

Appointment of Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal—1854.

Bengal remained under the Governor-General as Governor, his place during his occasional absence being supplied by a Deputy Governor appointed from among the Members of his Council, till 16 and 17 Vic., Cap. 95, was passed. Section 15 of that Act continued the power vested in the Directors to make Agra a separate presidency or leave it under a Lieutenant-Governor; and Section 16 empowered them also to declare "that the Governor-General of India shall not be Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, but that a separate Governor shall be appointed, and until such Governor be appointed the Directors may authorize the Governor-

General in Council to appoint "any servant of the said Company who shall have been ten years in their service in India to the office of Lieutenant-Governor, * * and to declare and limit the extent of the authority of the Lieutenant-Governor to be so appointed." The appointment by 21 and 22 Vic., Cap. 106, Section 29, is now made subject to the approbation of Her Majesty.

On the 12th October 1853, the Court of Directors authorized the appointment of a Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and in Home Department Resolution No. 415 of 28th April following, the Hon'ble F. J. Halliday was appointed first Lieutenant-Governor.

Territorial jurisdiction.

Paragraph 7 of this Resolution fixed the territorial jurisdiction of the Lieutenant Governor, which was to be "co-extensive with the jurisdiction which has heretofore been exercised by the Governor of Bengal, with the exception of the Tenasserim provinces, which, like the adjoining Province of Pegu, shall be placed directly under the Governor-General in Council."

Extent of authority.

Paragraph 8 fixed the extent of his authority. It was to "correspond in all respects with the authority that has been exercised by the Lieutenant-Governors of the North-Western Provinces."

Practically the Lieutenant-Governor for a long time exercised the same powers in civil matters as the Governors in Council of Madras or Bombay, though subject in some respects to somewhat closer supervision by the Supreme Government. Since the inauguration of the policy of financial decentralization in 1871, by Lord Mayo, large increases have been made to the powers and responsibilities of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Government of Bengal now stands practically in the same relation towards the Government of India as any other Local Government, the only difference being as regards the Governments of Madras and Bombay. These two Local Governments still possess a certain nominal authority in military matters, and are empowered to communicate direct with the Secretary of State in a few cases of minor importance. The development of the decentralization policy effected in 1877 and again in 1882 has still further increased the powers of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Government of Bengal in common with the other Local Governments now form an *imperium in imperio.* The Lieutenant-Governor possesses complete authority in all the departments of the civil administration. He appoints to all offices other than those which are recruited direct from England; he can create modify or abolish all appointments on a salary not exceeding Rs. 250 per mensem which require the sanction of the Secretary of State; he is empowered to undertake any works of public utility, other than railways, up to a limit of ten lakhs for any one work—and his orders are final in all matters connected with the working of the civil administration of the Province.

Form of Administration.

Administrative system. Regulation and Non-Regulation Districts.

THE province is divided into (1) districts subject to the general regulations and Acts; (2) tracts known as the Scheduled districts, to which the regulations and Acts do not apply of their own force, but to which they may be extended at the discretion of Government; and (3) semi-independent and tributary States, administered or partly administered by British officers. Under the second head come the Sonthal Pergunnahs and the hill tracts of Chittagong, which are still administered under a peculiar system, and the districts of Julpigoree, Darjeeling, Hazaribagh, Lohardugga, Manbhoom, and Singbhoom, in which many of the general laws are at present in force. Under the third head are the tributary mehals of Orissa and Chota Nagpore.

Calcutta.

The capital of the province, Calcutta, has, like the other presidency towns, a special organization of its own. In civil suits above a certain limit, as well as in all Sessions trials, it is under the original jurisdiction of a branch of the High Court, in which only English and Irish Barristers and Scotch Advocates can practise. The Small Cause Court of Calcutta is of purely local jurisdiction, and is regulated by a special Act. A separate establishment of Police is under the control of a Commissioner. Criminal justice is administered by two stipendiary Magistrates of Police and by a Bench of Honorary Magistrates. In revenue matters also the city forms part of no district, though it is subordinate to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division. Customs and Stamps are under the direct superintendence of the Board of Revenue. The affairs of the municipality and Municipal taxation are managed by a Chairman and a Board of Commissioners, of whom some are appointed by Government and some are elected by the rate-payers.

Covenanted and Uncovenanted Civil Service.

The public Civil Service is divided into two classes, the Covenanted and Uncovenanted. The former includes the civil servants who have entered into covenant with the Home Government, whether nominated to the service by the old Court of Directors and passed through Hayleybury, or whether appointed after passing the open competitive examination for the Service, which is now held once a year. The number of Covenanted Civilians employed in Bengal on the 31st March 1883 was 209, of whom 32 were from Hayleybury, and 177 had entered the Service after competitive examination. There were then six native gentlemen in the Bengal Covenanted Civil Service. Natives of India are now also appointed annually to the Covenanted Civil Service without examination under Statute 33 Vic., Chapter 3; and on the 31st March there were six statutory civilians in the service. The principal appointments that are at present held by Covenanted officers are the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, some of the Judgeships of the High Court, the Board of Revenue, the Regulation and Non-Regulation Commissionerships, the Judicial Commissionership, the principal Secretariat appointments, the Registrarship of the High Court, the Legal Remembrancership, the Opium Agencies, the Inspector-Generalship of the Police and Registration Departments,

the Collectorship of Customs, the District and Sessions Judgeships, and the District Magistrate-Collectorships, the majority of the Deputy Commissionerships, Joint-Magistracies, and Assistant Magistracies of the interior.

The Uncovenanted Civil Servants include all other civilians in Government employ, and are for the most part those Europeans, East Indians, and Natives who have been appointed in this country without reference to the Secretary of State. Their allowances are fixed on a lower standard, and their responsibilities are, generally speaking, of an inferior class to those of the Covenanted Civil Service. The principal appointments held by Uncovenanted officers are the appointments in the Education, Opium, and Police Departments, the office of Deputy Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, the Superintendentship of Customs Preventive Service and Sulkea Salt Golahs, the Small Cause Court Judgeships, Subordinate Judgeships, and Moonsiffships, the Deputy Magistracies, and Deputy Collectorships, certain appointments in the Non-Regulation Provinces, the Special and Rural Sub-Registrarships, and the appointments of Sub-Deputy Collectors and Canoongoes. Most of these appointments are held by natives, but Europeans and East Indians have a share of the subordinate appointments in the district executive and in the judiciary, as well as most of the appointments in the Police, Opium, Customs, and some other Departments.

The Regulation Provinces are, with the exception of a few departmental appointments, exclusively officered by Covenanted or Uncovenanted Civilians. In the Non-Regulation Provinces besides Covenanted and Uncovenanted Officers there are a few Commissioned Military Officers of the Staff Corps employed on civil work. These however are being absorbed as opportunities offer, and no new ones are appointed. The annexed table shows the distribution of officers employed in the Non-Regulation Provinces during 1883.

Appointment.	Sanctioned number.	Number held by Covenanted Civilians.	Number held by Officers other than Covenanted Civilians.			Remarks.
			Military Officers.	Uncovenanted Officers.	Total.	
Commissioner	1	1	.....	.....	.....	
Judicial Commissioner ...	1	1	.....	.....	.....	
Deputy ditto ...	*9	6	3	.....	3	
Assistant ditto ...	6	1	2	3	5	
Total ...	17	9	5	3	8	

* Including the Deputy Commissionership of Cooch Behar, which has since passed under native rule.

Administrative staff.

The following is a list of the principal gazetted officers who were employed on the 31st March 1883 in the executive administration of the country, in the administration of justice, in the ordinary duties connected with the collection of the revenue, and in the chief offices in the Police, Customs, Education, Registration, and other Departments:—

Officers at the Presidency.

Lieutenant-Governor	1
Private Secretary and Aide-de Camp	2
Secretaries, Joint and Under Secretaries to Government ...	13
Judges of the High Court	12
Members of the Board of Revenue	2
Secretaries to Board of Revenue	2
Registrar of the High Court	1
Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs	1
Deputy Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs ...	1
Collector of Customs	1
Assistant Collector of Customs and Head Appraiser	1

Officers at the Presidency—concluded.

Superintendent, Preventive Service and Sulkea Salt Golahs ...	1
Port Officer and *ex-officio* Shipping Master, Calcutta	1
Deputy Shipping Master	1
Assistant ditto	1
Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery	1
Inspector-General of Registration	1
Inspectors of Registration Offices	2
District Registrar of Calcutta	1
Collector of Calcutta and Superintendent of Excise Revenue ..	1
Commissioner of Police and Chairman of the Corporation of the Town of Calcutta	1
Deputy Commissioner of Police	1
Presidency Magistrates	2
Inspector-General of Police	1
Personal Assistant to Inspector-General of Police	1
Deputy Inspectors-General of Police	2
Inspector-General of Jails	1
Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Jails	1
Superintendent of Jail Manufacture	1
Superintendents of Jails	2
Sanitary Commissioner	1
Judges of the Small Cause Court and Registrar and Chief Ministerial Officer	5
Protector of Emigrants and Superintendent of Emigration ...	1
Medical Inspectors of Emigration	2
Director of Public Instruction	1
Inspectors of Schools	2
Principals and Professors of the Presidency College, Sanskrit College, and Madrissa	25
Superintendent of the Royal Botanical Gardens	1
Meteorological Reporter	1
Architect to Government	1
Superintendent, Government Pri[illegible]ng	1
Accountant-General, Depu[illegible] Assistant Accountants-General ...	4
Police Surgeon [illegible] of Calcutta	1
Health Officer, P[illegible] of Arts	1
Principal, S[illegible] of Calcutta	1
Lord [illegible]con of Calcutta	1
A[illegible]geon-General, Bengal	1
Principal, Professors and Resident Physicians and Surgeons ...	1
Superintendent of Vaccination	15
Bengali Translator to Goverment	1

Regulation Districts.

Commissioners of Divisions	8
District and Sessions Judges	28
District Judge and Assistant Sessions Judge	1
Magistrates and Collectors, 1st grade	15
Ditto ditto, 2nd "	15
Ditto ditto, 3rd "	7
Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, 1st grade	23
Acting ditto ditto, ditto	4
Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, 2nd grade	12
Assistant Magistrates	89
Cantonment Magistrates	3*
Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors	233
Sub-Deputy Collectors	77
Tehsildars	5
Principal Judge of Small Cause Courts in Jessore and Nuddea ...	1
Subordinate Judge and Judges of Small Cause Courts	49*
Moonsiffs	235*
Special Sub-Registrars	18
Rural Sub-Registrars paid by fees	173
District Superintendents of Police	51*
Assistant ditto ditto	37*
Inspectors of Schools	4
Principals and Professors of Colleges	28

* Including Assam.

Non-Regulation Districts.

Commissioner	1
Judicial Commissioner	1
Deputy Commissioners, 1st grade	2
Ditto ditto, 2nd „	3
Ditto ditto, 3rd „	3
Ditto ditto, 4th „	1
Assistant Commissioners, 1st „	3
Ditto ditto, 2nd „	2
Ditto ditto, 3rd „	1

Executive administration.

The unit of the executive administration, whether in Regulation or Non-Regulation Districts, is the District Officer—in the one case styled Magistrate-Collector, in the other Deputy Commissioner. The Superintendents of Police are the right hand of the Magistrate. The ordinary district jails, while placed in the hands of an officer, usually the Civil Surgeon, selected for the duty, are under the general control of the Magistrate. A similar arrangement is in force in the department of education. All District Officers are *ex officio* Registrars. They are also *ex officio* Chairmen of the District Road Committees, and as such are charged with the execution and administration of all local public works. The District Officer is the executive chief and administrator of the tract of country committed to him, and is or ought to be supreme over everyone and everything, except the proceedings of the courts of justice. As District Magistrate he is also head of the department of criminal justice, which is charged with the summary trial of small cases, and the inquiry into greater cases previous to trial at sessions, although he generally rather distributes and superintends this work than does a large share of it himself.

At the disposal of the District Officer are the subordinate magisterial, police, and revenue authorities. The District Superintendent of Police, who is the head of the police under the Magistrate, confines his attention to police administration and kindred subjects; but the subordinate Magistrates combine revenue with their magisterial functions. The sub-divisional officers, who are Assistant and Deputy Magistrates in charge of divisions of districts, exercise in their own jurisdictions the delegated power of the District Officer, except in matters of police over which they have only judicial and no executive control.

Above the District Magistrates are the Divisional Commissioners. Their duties are principally those of supervision. In almost all matters they exercise a general superintendence, and especially in the Revenue Department they keep a control over the Collectors' proceedings. Commissioners are the channels of communication between the local officers and Government, sifting, collating, and bringing together, in a compact form, the information they receive. In revenue matters the Commissioners are in their turn subject to the orders of the Board of Revenue, in Calcutta; in other matters they are under the Government direct.

Under the system of Provincial decentralization which has undergone such great development during the last ten years, the powers and responsibilities of the Local Government, both administrative and financial, have been extended to almost every department of Government. By the financial contract which came into force on the 1st April 1882, the whole of the receipts under the heads of General Administration, Police, Jails, Marine, Education, Medical, Superannuation, Miscellaneous, Stationery, Interest, and Productive Public Works (including Railways and Canals constructed from borrowed capital on the financial responsibility of the Provincial revenues, as well as works constructed with surplus Provincial funds) were made over in their entirety to the Local Government together with the corresponding charges. In addition to these, one-half the receipts and an equal proportion of the expenditure under Stamps, Excise, Registration, Forests, and Assessed Taxes were similarly made over, together with certain items of receipt and expenditure under Customs and Salt and a fixed proportionate share in the Land Revenue of the Province. In all cases the fullest authority in all the internal details of the departments mentioned above has accompanied the transfer of financial interest.

Revenue administration.

The revenues of the Province of Bengal are derived from the following principal sources:—the land revenue, the monopoly of opium, excise on spirits and intoxicating drugs, stamps, salt, license-tax, the customs duties, and the Public Works Cess levied under Act IX (B.C.) of 1881. Of these, land revenue, excise, stamps and the license-tax are managed by the District Collector and his establishments, but the opium, customs, and salt revenue are under special departments. The Public Works Cess is levied conjointly with the Road Cess by the District Collector by means of an establishment which is paid for partly by Provincial revenues and partly by Local Funds. The District Collector is controlled by the Revenue Commissioner, who again is subject to the orders of the Member of the Board of Revenue in charge of the department. The Board consists of two Members, who are each the heads of their own departments, and exercise full powers independently of one another. The Senior Member devotes his undivided attention to the department of land revenue. The Junior Member has charge of all other sources of revenue. The opium branch of the revenue is under the management of two Opium Agents—the one stationed at Patna and the other at Ghazeepore: but although the latter station lies in the North-West Provinces, both officers are subordinate to the Government of Bengal. The organization of the Opium Department, and the question of its subordination to the Government of Bengal are now under consideration. The Opium Agents are aided by a local agency of Principal Assistants and Sub-Deputy Agents. The general superintendence of the opium revenue, under the direction of the executive Government, is vested in the Member of the Board in charge. At the head of the customs is a special Collector, who is aided by a number of assistants. The customs duties have recently been abolished upon all articles except arms and ammunition, wines and spirits, opium and salt, and the revenue from this source has been very greatly reduced. There is also a large body of preventive officers. The minor custom houses at Chittagong and Balasore are under the control of the local officers.

The principal executive officer of the Government in the Marine Department is the Port Officer of Calcutta, who, besides discharging the duties of Shipping Master and controlling the Hooghly Pilot Service, is required to visit and report on the outports periodically and is referred to generally in marine matters on which a nautical opinion is desired by the Government. This officer had formerly the entire management of the approaches of the Port of Calcutta, with all the establishments connected with that portion of the Hooghly, but it was decided in 1881 to relieve him of this portion of his duties, and the approaches were transferred towards the end of that year to the Port Commissioners of Calcutta, who have administered the port proper since the constitution of a Port Trust under Act V (B.C.) of 1870. The Commissioners have now the entire control of the river, as Conservators of the Port and its approaches, from the northern boundary of the Port to the sea, the pilot service alone being left under the Port Officer's supervision. Chittagong and the three ports of the Province of Orissa are in charge of Port Officers, directly subordinate, in the case of Chittagong to the Commissioner of the Division, and in the case of the other ports, to the Magistrate of the district in which each port lies.

Department of Public Works.

No branch of the administration has developed to a greater extent during the past ten years than that of Public Works. The Department is now divided into three branches, of which one deals with Railways, one with Irrigation, and one with civil buildings and roads and miscellaneous matters. In 1872-73, it was managed by one Chief Engineer and Secretary, and two Assistant Secretaries. It now requires the services of two Chief Engineers and four Under-Secretaries.

For the purposes of the Roads and Buildings Branch of the Department, the Province is divided into 3 circles, each of which is under the charge of a Superintending Engineer. These circles are again subdivided into divisions, each managed by an Executive Engineer. The latter officers are now independent of the district Magistrates in all respects it having been found that the system introduced in 1871 by Sir G. Campbell did not work in a satisfactory manner. The bulk of the local works are however in charge

of the District Committees, each of which has its own District Engineer, who is under the immediate orders of the Magistrate-Chairman. It is probable that considerable modifications will shortly be introduced into the constitution of these committees both in their relations towards the district Magistrates and the Public Works Department, and that they will be entrusted with the execution and charge of many minor works that have hitherto been managed by Government direct.

Railways.

The Railway system of the Provinces is now for the most part under the Local Government and constitutes a separate branch of the Public Works Department. The Government of India has retained in its own hands the administration of those lines which like the East Indian Railway and the Eastern Bengal Railway have been guaranteed from the Imperial Revenues. Of these two lines, the former has already become the property of the State, and the latter will become so in the course of a few months. The Local Government has no direct concern with the management of these lines, and their mileage, &c. is not taken into account in the remarks below.

Exclusive of these lines, the Bengal railway system includes (1) State Railways, (2) Railways guaranteed by the Local Government, and (3) Railways the property of private persons which have not received a Government guarantee. In the following paragraphs an account is given of the progress made in this branch of the administration since 1872-73, and the existing state of the Department.

The Railway Branch of the Public Works Department first came into existence through the surrender of the Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway to the Government of India on the 1st April 1868 under the terms of the contract between the Secretary of State and the company. In April 1872 the Nalhati Railway also, which had been constructed by a company as a feeder to the East Indian Railway, was purchased by Government for Rs. 3,00,000.

The following table will show the progress made in State Railways at the close of the years 1872-73 and 1882-83 :—

Year.	Mileage.			Total capital outlay.	Financial Results.			
	Open to traffic.	Under construction.	Surveyed or under survey.		Earnings.	Expenditure.	Net earnings.	Percentage on capital expenditure.
	No.	No.	No.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1872-73	55	.....	211	67,59,128	1,67,000*	1,30,000*	37,000*	0·55*
1882-83	570	179	1,175	4,46,61,441	37,68,000	20,53,000	17,15,000	3·61

* Figures approximate only.

At the close of 1872-73 no State Railways were under construction, but surveys with a view to the selection of the route to be followed by the Northern Bengal Railway had been carried out. Extensions of that line to Dinagepore, Rungpore, and Bogra, and towards Assam were also projected.

At the close of 1882-83 the Northern Bengal, Kaunia-Dhurlla and Mogulhât, Tirhoot, Patna and Gya, Calcutta and South-Eastern, and Nalhati State Railways were open to traffic. The Dinagepore Branch of the Northern Bengal State Railway, the Western Extension from Motihari to Bettiah, and the Hajipore Extension of the Tirhoot State Railway, the Extension from Mugrahat to Diamond Harbour of the Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway, and the Dacca and Mymensingh State Railway were under construction. The Extension from Kaunia to Dhubri and from Dinagepore to Purneah with a branch to Munihari of the Northern Bengal State Railway, the Sitamurhi Branch, and Extension from Jhinjharpore to Bulloa on the Kosi of the Tirhoot State Railway, the Bengal-Nagpore and Benares-Cuttack Railways, and the Chittagong and Chandpore Railway with a branch to Commillah had been surveyed or were under survey, and the Cuttack and Puri Railway, and a railway from Bukhtiarpore on the East Indian Railway, or from Jehanabad on the Patna and Gya State Railway to Behar, were projected.

During 1872-73 the earnings were but slightly in excess of the working expenses owing to the heavy percentage of expenditure to earnings on the Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway, and the heavy capital outlay

probable, however, that no more correct returns could have been obtained without an enormously disproportionate expenditure of labour and money.

Of the entire population of the Province, 65·36 per cent. are Hindus, 31·21 per cent. are Mahomedans, ·18 per cent. are Christians, and ·22 per cent. are Buddhists; the followers of all other religions making up 3·01 of the whole The proportions of increase or decrease since the census of 1872 among th chief religions are—

Religion.	Increase + or decrease —. Number	Percentage.
Hindus	+5,456,231	+13·64
Mahomedans	+2,145,472	+10·96
Christians	+ 37,072	+40·71
Buddhists	+ 75,202	+93·29
All others	—244,154	—10·43

The increase shown under Mahomedans and Christians is considered to be real. That under Buddhists is almost wholly confined to the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and Darjeeling, and is for the most part due to more accurate enumeration. The decrease under "All others" ma be attributed to the inclusion under Hindus of large numbers of person who at the previous census had been shown as aborigines, this cause producin a corresponding apparent increase under Hindus. No change of importanc has occurred in the distribution of any of these religions since 1872. Hindu form more than 90 per cent. of the population in Orissa, more than 80 per cent in the Patna, Burdwan, and Bhagulpore Divisions, and more than 70 p cent. in Chota Nagpore and the Tributary States. They are least numerous the Chittagong Division, where they form only 28·48 per cent. of the who The Mahomedans are most numerous in the Chittagong, Dacca, and Rajshah Divisions, in each of which they are more than 60 per cent. of the whole, ar are least numerous in Orissa, where they are only 2·29 per cent. The Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions together contain only one-seventh of the total number of Mahomedans. Of the total population of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, 438,692, or 62·6 per cent., are Hindus; 221,013, or 32·2 per cent., are Mahomedans; and 30,478, or 4·4 per cent., are Christians. Three sect Mahomedans have been shown in the returns, viz. Sunnis 20,964,657, 262,293, and Wahabis 2,144. The unspecified number as many as 44 The figures for Wahabis are clearly incorrect, and this is further corrol by their distribution. They are almost entirely confined to Moorshedabo Pubna; while Patna, which was long the centre of the Wahabi move numbers only 27 confessors.

The progress made in the spread of Christianity during the last years is one of the most interesting facts brought out by the census just te In 1872 the number of persons returned as Christians was 91,063, whi 1881 this number had increased to 128,135, showing an advance of 37,07 40·71 per cent. It is impossible, however, to say how much of this increase i to conversions from heathendom, and how much to immigration from Eur

The division of the persons who were not included among any of nine chief religions into Sonthals, Kols, other Western Aborigines, Eas Aborigines, and Others was made under the special orders of the Governi of Bengal. The classification is not scientifically accurate, and is b on considerations of practical convenience. Besides those who retur themselves as professing the Sonthal and Kol religions, there are a num of others who are shown as Hindus by religion and Sonthals and F by caste. These number respectively 203,264 and 257,803, and bi up the total numbers of these tribes to Sonthals 1,087,202 and K 871,666. Of the 469,622 persons who have been shown as Other West Aborigines, the great bulk, or 362,561, were returned in the census schedu as Poithaliks, which is a vague term meaning "idolator," used by the enumerators to denote persons not belonging to the recogni The Eastern Aborigines include Garos, Manipuris, K of the northern frontier, Meches and Ac

Tipperahs, Reangs, and other hillmen from the Chittagong and Tipperah hills.

Conjugal condition.

The number of persons returned as single, married, and widowed is as follows :—

	Single.	Married.	Widowed.	Total.
Males	16,098,605	16,991,966	1,374,184	34,464,755
Females	10,331,811	17,040,095	7,397,647	34,769,553

And the percentages of each class among 100 of the population are—

	Single.	Married.	Widowed.
Males	46·71	49·30	3·98
Females	29·71	49·00	21·27

The corresponding percentages in the case of the United Kingdom and France are for males 61·95, 34·06, and 3·97, and for females 57·90, 33·00, and 9·08 respectively. These figures throw into high relief the marked difference that exists between the East and West in all questions of conjugal condition. In Bengal marriage is twice as common among females and half as common again among males as in Europe, while the number of widows is more than twice as great as in Europe. These figures show that the people of Bengal, unchecked by any prudential considerations, marry their daughters at the earliest possible age and as a matter of course, that the discrepancy of age between husband and wife makes many widows, and that their re-marriage is virtually unknown.

The tables which show conjugal condition in conjunction with age indicate many interesting conclusions. Out of every 100 boys below the age of ten years, rather less than four are married; while the number of married girls of the same age is 11. From 10 to 20 years of age 71 boys in 100 are still bachelors; while out of 100 girls of the same age, 76 are married and 4 are widows, only 19 being still unmarried. In the third decade the remarkable result is apparent that in every 100 women from 20 to 30 years of age there is *only one* who has not been given in marriage. Practically, it may be said that almost the whole female population is transferred from the single to the married state before their 20th year. Matrimony is not so common among the male population; men are married for the most part between the ages of 20 and 30, and the proportion of married men is greatest between the ages of 30 and 39, when it amounts to 90·23 per cent. of the whole. From this time the proportion of married men dwindles very gently, and the percentage of widowers approximates closely to that of European countries. Taking the earliest marriageable age to be 10 years, and excluding all persons below that age, we find that of the total number of bachelors of 10 years old and upwards 54·12 are between the ages of 10 and 15 years, and about 25 per cent. between 15 and 20 years; while of the unmarried women of marriageable age, 78·88 per cent. are under 15 years, and 10·71 per cent. below 20. These figures show that while the great majority of the girls marry before the age of 15, only one-fifth of the boys are married at that age, and only one-fifth are married before they are 20.

The numbers of the married in every 100 persons between 10 and 15 years of age in each of the chief religions are—

	Males.	Females.
Hindus	23·35	66·59
Mahomedans	9·90	68·59
Christians	4·19	14·87
Buddhists	3·16	23·03
Aboriginals	9·55	26·12
All religions ..	18·50	65·74

probable, however, that no more correct returns could have been obtained without an enormously disproportionate expenditure of labour and money.

Of the entire population of the Province, 65·36 per cent. are Hindus, 31·21 per cent. are Mahomedans, ·18 per cent. are Christians, and ·22 per cent are Buddhists; the followers of all other religions making up 3·01 of the whole The proportions of increase or decrease since the census of 1872 among th chief religions are—

Religion.	Increase + or decrease —. Number	Percentage.
Hindus	+5,456,231	+13·64
Mahomedans	+2,145,472	+10·96
Christians	+ 37,072	+40·71
Buddhists	+ 75,202	+93·29
All others	—244,154	—10·43

The increase shown under Mahomedans and Christians is considered to be real. That under Buddhists is almost wholly confined to the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and Darjeeling, and is for the most part due to more accurate enumeration. The decrease under "All others" ma be attributed to the inclusion under Hindus of large numbers of person who at the previous census had been shown as aborigines, this cause producin a corresponding apparent increase under Hindus. No change of importanc has occurred in the distribution of any of these religions since 1872. Hindu form more than 90 per cent. of the population in Orissa, more than 80 per cent in the Patna, Burdwan, and Bhagulpore Divisions, and more than 70 p cent. in Chota Nagpore and the Tributary States. They are least numerous the Chittagong Division, where they form only 28·48 per cent. of the whc The Mahomedans are most numerous in the Chittagong, Dacca, and Rajshahy Divisions, in each of which they are more than 60 per cent. of the whole, ar are least numerous in Orissa, where they are only 2·29 per cent. The Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions together contain only one-seventh of the total number of Mahomedans. Of the total population of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, 428,692, or 62·6 per cent., are Hindus; 221,013, or 32·2 per cent., are Mahomedans; and 30,478, or 4·4 per cent., are Christians. Three sect Mahomedans have been shown in the returns, viz. Sunnis 20,964,657, 262,293, and Wahabis 2,144. The unspecified number as many as 44 The figures for Wahabis are clearly incorrect, and this is further corrol by their distribution. They are almost entirely confined to Moorshedaba Pubna; while Patna, which was long the centre of the Wahabi move numbers only 27 confessors.

The progress made in the spread of Christianity during the last years is one of the most interesting facts brought out by the census just ta In 1872 the number of persons returned as Christians was 91,063, whi 1881 this number had increased to 128,135, showing an advance of 37,07 40·71 per cent. It is impossible, however, to say how much of this increase i to conversions from heathendom, and how much to immigration from Eur

The division of the persons who were not included among any of nine chief religions into Sonthals, Kols, other Western Aborigines, Eas Aborigines, and Others was made under the special orders of the Governi of Bengal. The classification is not scientifically accurate, and is b on considerations of practical convenience. Besides those who retur themselves as professing the Sonthal and Kol religions, there are a num of others who are shown as Hindus by religion and Sonthals and K by caste. These number respectively 203,264 and 257,803, and bi up the total numbers of these tribes to Sonthals 1,087,202 and K 871,666. Of the 469,622 persons who have been shown as Other West Aborigines, the great bulk, or 362,561, were returned in the census schedu as Poithaliks, which is a vague term meaning "idolator," used by the enumerators to denote persons not belonging to the recogni The Eastern Aborigines include Garos, Manipuris, K of the northern frontier, Meches and Ac

Tipperahs, Reangs, and other hillmen from the Chittagong and Tipperah hills.

Conjugal condition.

The number of persons returned as single, married, and widowed is as follows :—

	Single.	Married.	Widowed.	Total.
Males	16,098,605	16,991,966	1,374,184	34,464,755
Females	10,331,811	17,040,095	7,397,647	34,769,553

And the percentages of each class among 100 of the population are—

	Single.	Married.	Widowed.
Males	46·71	49·30	3·98
Females	29·71	49·00	21·27

The corresponding percentages in the case of the United Kingdom and France are for males 61·95, 34·06, and 3·97, and for females 57·90, 33·00, and 9·08 respectively. These figures throw into high relief the marked difference that exists between the East and West in all questions of conjugal condition. In Bengal marriage is twice as common among females and half as common again among males as in Europe, while the number of widows is more than twice as great as in Europe. These figures show that the people of Bengal, unchecked by any prudential considerations, marry their daughters at the earliest possible age and as a matter of course, that the discrepancy of age between husband and wife makes many widows, and that their re-marriage is virtually unknown.

The tables which show conjugal condition in conjunction with age indicate many interesting conclusions. Out of every 100 boys below the age of ten years, rather less than four are married; while the number of married girls of the same age is 11. From 10 to 20 years of age 71 boys in 100 are still bachelors; while out of 100 girls of the same age, 76 are married and 4 are widows, only 19 being still unmarried. In the third decade the remarkable result is apparent that in every 100 women from 20 to 30 years of age there is *only one* who has not been given in marriage. Practically, it may be said that almost the whole female population is transferred from the single to the married state before their 20th year. Matrimony is not so common among the male population; men are married for the most part between the ages of 20 and 30, and the proportion of married men is greatest between the ages of 30 and 39, when it amounts to 90·23 per cent. of the whole. From this time the proportion of married men dwindles very gently, and the percentage of widowers approximates closely to that of European countries. Taking the earliest marriageable age to be 10 years, and excluding all persons below that age, we find that of the total number of bachelors of 10 years old and upwards 54·12 are between the ages of 10 and 15 years, and about 25 per cent. between 15 and 20 years; while of the unmarried women of marriageable age, 78·88 per cent. are under 15 years, and 10·71 per cent. below 20. These figures show that while the great majority of the girls marry before the age of 15, only one-fifth of the boys are married at that age, and only one-fifth are married before they are 20.

The numbers of the married in every 100 persons between 10 and 15 years of age in each of the chief religions are—

	Males.	Females.
Hindus	23·35	66·59
Mahomedans	9·90	68·59
Christians	4·19	14·87
Buddhists	3·16	23·03
Aboriginals	9·55	26·12
All religions ..	18·50	65·74

The practice of early marriage of boys is therefore far more prevalent among the Hindus than among members of any other religion; while both Hindus and Mahomedans marry their daughters at a very early age. Out of every 100 women of 20 to 30 years of age, 98·80 are or have been married, and of every 100 married or widowed women 30 years of age, 11·51 were married before they were ten years old, 69·25 between 10 and 20 years, and 18·04 between 20 and 30 years of age. Of the men under 40 years of age who either are or have been married, only 3·91 per cent. were married before they were 10 years old, 24·62 per cent. between 10 and 20, 50·50 per cent. between 20 and 30, and 15·96 per cent. at the comparatively mature age of between 30 and 40. The mean age of married males in Bengal is 36·97 years, and the mean age of married females 28·68. Each husband is therefore on an average eight years older than his wife. This circumstance helps to account for the comparatively large proportion borne by males to females in the total population. The average difference of age in England between husband and wife is only about 2½ years. The mean duration of married life is not widely different in Bengal from that found to exist in Europe, being 15·77 years against 15·15. The total number of married men in Bengal is 16,991,966, while the number of married women is about 50,000 greater. This gives a proportion of 1,002 wives to every 1,000 husbands, which is a margin much too small to justify any theory of general or widespread polygamy. Among Hindus there is actually an excess in favour of the married men, which is due to immigration of married males. Among Mahomedans the proportion is 1,033 wives to every 1,000 husbands. A considerable part of this excess is due to the fact that in the districts of Eastern Bengal, where the Mahomedans form a large majority of the population, numbers of sailors, who are all of this religion, were absent on their avocations on the night of the census. This excess is particularly observable in the returns of Chittagong (1,266), Noakholly (1,081), and Dacca (1,079), all of which supply men to the mercantile marine. The inference made by the Deputy Superintendent that polygamy, though existent, is practised only to a very small extent by the Mussulman population of Bengal appears therefore to be justified by the figures.

Ages of the population.

A curious feature of the returns is the progressive *increase* in the number of children living at each of the first four years of life. The number of infants under one year of age was 1,611,449; the number returned as one year old was 1,679,504; two years old, 2,130,034; three years old, 2,548,457; and four years old, 2,220,142. The causes assigned for this are—first, the exceptional healthiness and general prosperity of the years 1876 and 1877; and, second, the ignorance and inaccuracy of natives in all matters connected with their ages, which have led them in numbers of cases to declare the age of very young children to be "three or four years." The latter of these is the more probable explanation, though the first-named may also have had some influence. Another noticeable point is the strange fluctuations in the numbers for each quinquennial age-period after the first four years of life. It appears that the age-period 25—29, which contains the popular age 25, is abnormally large, and that for the rest each period which contains a round number, such as 40—44, 50—54, &c., is, contrary to expectation, more numerous than the period which immediately precedes it. The explanation is unquestionably to be found in the well known inaccuracy with which ages are always stated by natives. Similar variations are to be found in the returns of all the provinces of India.

The figures for the age-periods from 5 to 9 and 10 to 14 are certainly not reliable. This is established by a comparison of the proportions of males to females at those two age-periods with the corresponding proportions at other periods of life. It appears that while the females exceed the males in each year of life up to 4, the proportion is suddenly and violently reversed in the age-periods from 5 to 9 and 10 to 14. Among children below 5 years of age, there are on an average 93·91 boys to 100 girls; but in the next two quinquennial periods this proportion rises to 106·66 and 125·28 respectively, falling again to its normal rate of 98·06 in the period from 15 to 19. The reason of the change is that these two periods include the five years from 8 to 13, during

which almost all native girls are given in marriage. The presence in a family of unmarried girls of marriageable age is regarded as a disgrace, and has, in Bengal, as in other Provinces and at other censuses, occasioned both some concealment of women and some under-statement of their ages. It is estimated that the omissions amount to about 8 per cent. of the total number of females under 15 years of age. The mean age of the population of Bengal is 24·99, that of males being 24·49 years and of females 25·49. The mean age in England is 26·4 years, and the cause of the lower mean in this Province is to be found in the high birth and death rates which prevail in Bengal.

Castes.

According to the census returns, 65 castes or tribes have upwards of 100,000 representatives in this Province. The Gowalla or cowherd caste heads the list with 3,992,949 members, including the Gops of Bengal, the Ahirs of Behar, and the Gours of Orissa; next come the Brahmins, with 2,754,100, and the Kaibarthas with 2,100,379. Koches and Chandals each number more than a million-and-a-half; while eight more castes, the Kayasths, Rajputs, Chamars, Telis, Kurmis, Koeris, Dosadhs, and Babhans, in the order named, each claim upwards of one million members. Besides these more numerous castes, no less than 265 smaller ones are shown in the tables, in addition to several so-called castes and clans of doubtful position. The heading "Others" includes many persons who have described themselves by nationality only, as Bengali, Punjabi, &c., and others who have given the name of their occupation in lieu of their caste, such as Sikalgar, Dafali, and Shikari. Thirty castes, including all those of general utility, "whose services are indispensable to that microcosm the Bengal village," have representatives in every division of the Province. Many others, however, are extremely local, some of them having more than 60 per cent. of their whole number within the limits of a single division. Thus the large majority of Bhumijs, Kharwars, Sonthals and Kols (so-called) are to be found in Chota Nagpore. Orissa has almost a monopoly of Chassas, Kandaras, Karans, Khandaits and Pans. Rajputs, Babhans, Chamars, Dosadhs, Binds, Nuniyas, and Gareris are chiefly concentrated in Behar; while of Koches, Pods, Bagdis, and Sadgops but few are found outside Bengal Proper. The relative proportion of males and females in the various castes, to which a high degree of importance attaches in provinces where female infanticide or polyandry is suspected to exist, is of little practical interest in Bengal. It is, however, of some significance that the proportion of males to females is highest among such castes as the Rajputs, Brahmans, and Babhans, who are most sensitive on the subject of their women and upon whom the suspicion of withholding information rests most heavily.

Nationality.

Among the points upon which information was required for the first time at the recent census were statistics of birth-place and mother-tongue. Out of the 69,536,861 persons found in Bengal on the night of the census, only 790,777, or 1·14 per cent., had been born outside the Province. Of these, 487,059 had been born in other Provinces of British India, 93,110 in the remainder of Asia, and 12,298 in Europe. The birth-places of 197,485 persons were not traceable. Of the 93,110 immigrants from other parts of Asia, 85,011 are natives of Nepal, and the great bulk of the remainder are from Bhutan, Thibet, and Sikkim. The majority of these are found on the tea-plantations of Darjeeling and Julpigoree, and in Chumparun. Of the immigrants from other Provinces of India, the North-Western Provinces claims 351,933, or over three-fourths of the whole, the males and females numbering respectively 214,498 and 137,435. The greater part of the remainder are from Assam and the Central Provinces. The total number of Bengal-born persons found in the other chief Provinces of India on the night of the census was 615,286, of whom 328,312 were males and 286,974 females. Of these, 76,909 males and 136,720 females were found in the North-Western Provinces, 126,856 males and 94,400 females in Assam, and 79,746 males and 23,115 females in British Burmah. From the equality in numbers of the Bengal women received from and sent into the North-Western Provinces it has been inferred that these

transfers are mostly due to inter-marriages among the people of the border districts. The absence of district details renders it impossible to establish this proposition, but it seems intrinsically probable, and affords a simple explanation of the singular fact that women appear to leave the districts of their birth much more than men. Among the Provinces of Bengal, the Feudatory States have the highest proportion of immigrants, who amount to 17·97 per cent. Bengal comes next with 5·91, owing principally to the influences of Calcutta and Darjeeling. Chota Nagpore has a percentage of 3·27, Behar of 1·63, and Orissa of 1·52. The highest percentage of foreigners is naturally found in Calcutta, where they amount to no less than 70·25 per cent. of the whole population of the town. The figures for emigration from the several districts and Provinces would have been instructive, but, unfortunately, no district details are available for emigrants beyond the limits of Bengal itself, without which the figures would be useless.

Language.

Of the various languages recorded in the census schedules, it appears that Bengali is the mother-tongue of 36,416,970 persons, or more than half the entire population of the Province. Hindi, Hindustani, and Urdu are spoken by 24,799,081, or 35·65 per cent., and Uriya by 5,450,818, or 7·83 per cent. The Kolarian languages, Sonthali, Kol, Munda, and Bheel, have been shown as spoken by 2,149,133 people; while English is stated to be the mother-tongue of 37,640 persons.

Occupations.

The poverty of the results of the attempt to collect information concerning the occupations of the people is one of the least satisfactory features of the recent census. The importance of the subject in all its bearings on the social condition and physical and moral progress of the people can hardly be overrated; yet it would scarcely be too much to say that the statistics compiled in 1881 have not made any addition to the knowledge obtained in 1872. No expenditure of time and trouble was spared by the Bengal census officers, and it is estimated that at least one-third of the total cost of preparing the census tables must be debited to this single subject. It is therefore the more disappointing to find so inadequate a result. The returns, in fact, so far as their details are concerned, appear to be of little or no value. The causes of this unfortunate state of things appear to be two. The first and most important is the enormous difficulty that was experienced in securing definite entries in the original schedules. Special attention was given to the point in the instructions issued to the enumerators, but in spite of every effort the number of vague descriptions that were met with precluded the possibility of an accurate classification. Entries, such as "service," "shop-keeping," and the like, abounded on every page of the schedules, and baffled every attempt at sub-division of occupations. Although it was the particular desire of the Census authorities and of Government that the different classes of cultivators should be separately shown, this object was completely defeated by the return of 11,264,942 males, or 86 per cent. of the whole sub-order of agriculturists, as "cultivators" only without any further specification.

Even, however, had the entries in the original schedules been all that was desired, the value of the returns would have been greatly impaired by the system of classification under which it was necessary to show them. The classification which was adopted was based on that devised by Dr. Farr in the English Census of 1871. It divides all occupations into 6 classes—Professional, Domestic, Commercial, Agricultural, Industrial, and Indefinite and Non-productive. These classes are again subdivided into 18 Orders, 82 Sub-orders, and 487 Main heads. Every occupation entered in the schedules was required to be referred to one or other of these Main heads, and as these had been selected with a view to the circumstances of England, they were in many cases quite unsuitable to those of Bengal. Although, however, the paramount necessity of securing uniformity throughout India led the Government of India to give the preference to Dr. Farr's classification, an attempt was made by the Deputy Superintendent to show the occupations of the Province arranged on a system more in accordance with local conditions. This table is intelligible and interesting, but it contains figures for the entire Province only, without showing district details.

The following table shows the distribution of the population of Bengal among the 6 principal classes :—

Occupations.	Males.	Females.
Class I—Professional	624,538	57,117
Class II—Domestic	943,015	245,525
Class III—Commercial	1,136,014	195,423
Class IV—Agricultural	13,332,557	1,957,675
Class V—Industrial	2,651,132	1,900,181
Class VI—Indefinite and Non-productive ..	15,830,331	30,466,119
Total ..	34,517,587	34,822,040

It thus appears that 66·76 per cent. of both sexes belong to the Indefinite and Non-productive Class. If from this proportion be deducted the percentage of children under 10 years of age, who are too young to work, and of persons over 60 years, who are too old, it appears that among those capable of active work, 21·24 per cent. of the men and 51·58 per cent. of the women are without specific employment. This percentage, however, in the case of women includes those who are employed upon domestic and household duties. This Class includes also the great body of general labourers, who form between 10 and 11 per cent. of the population. Of the remainder of the population, more than two-thirds is absorbed by the Agricultural Class, which comprises more than half of the persons capable of active work in each Division. It is most universal in the Rajshahye and Dacca Divisions, where the population is largely Mahomedan. It is least common, as might be expected, in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions. "So universal is the pursuit of agricultural operations that even in the urban population they employ the greater proportion of individuals." Next come general labourers, servants and personal attendants, "persons who buy or sell, keep or lend money or goods of various kinds," "persons working and dealing in textile fabrics and dress," carriers and bearers, and "persons working and dealing in food and drink." Among the rural population, agriculture stands first, claiming more than five times as many followers as the next on the list, General labourers.

Among Hindus, 49·28 per cent. of the population capable of work are engaged in agriculture, 13 per cent. are unemployed (among whom must be counted the many Hindu scholars above 10 years of age), 11·40 per cent. are general labourers, while 5·54 per cent. are attendants and domestic servants. Among Mahomedans, on the other hand, the proportion of agriculturists reaches the high figure of 62·81 per cent. One reason for this remarkable result was possibly the absence of many Mahomedan sailors and boatmen from their home on the night of the census. The members of this religion are also numerous among "persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, and goods," and among "persons engaged in breeding and keeping animals," and among weavers and manufacturers of textile fabrics. Of the whole female population of the Province, 83 per cent. have been returned as unemployed. The remainder are distributed among 288 separate occupations, only 42 of which claim more than 10,000 followers. Cultivators number 1,675,843, and general labourers 1,371,577. It is, however, impossible to say how far the women entered under these heads are really breadwinners themselves, and how far they are merely the wives of breadwinners. Nine other occupations claim more than 100,000 followers each; these are recorded as grain-huskers, thread-spinners, vagrants, cultivators (combining agriculture with some other occupation), maid-servants, shop-keepers, agricultural labourers, fishmongers, and cotton-cloth weavers. The occupations of women are, however, even less trustworthy than those of men, and the returns of neither of them will repay minute examination.

Education of the people.

An attempt to collect statistics of the spread of education was made for the first time in Bengal in the census of 1881. The whole population was classified under the following heads—

1. Under instruction;
2. Not under instruction, but able to read and write;
3. Ditto ditto, and not able to read and write;

and the numbers recorded in each class are as follows:—

Sex.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction. Able to read and write.	Not under instruction. Not able to read and write.
Males ..	1,009,999	1,991,583	31,480,486
Females ..	35,760	61,449	34,788,686
Total ..	1,045,759	2,053,032	66,171,663

It is probable that in Behar and Chota Nagpore, where the language of the schedules was Hindi or Urdu, some error may have crept in, and that some persons who should have been shown as learners in the first class have been brought into the educated or second class. The total amount of error is, however, considered to be trifling. It thus appears that taking both sexes together, out of every 1,000 persons in the Province only 15 are under instruction, and 29 more are able to read and write; while no less than 955 are altogether illiterate. Of males 912 in 1,000 are illiterate against 997 females. Compared with the other Provinces of India with regard to education, Bengal stands only fourth on the list, the Central Provinces being first, Madras second, and Bombay third. Excluding children below the school-going age, which may be taken to be 5 years, and omitting females, among whom education in Bengal is almost non-existent, it appears that out of every 1,000 persons 34 are learning, 67 can read and write, and 898 are ignorant. Among Hindus these proportions become 38, 79, and 882 respectively, and among Mahomedans 28, 45, and 928. This demonstrates what was already known to be the case, that the standard of education is much higher among the Hindus than among Mussulmen. Judged by the census figures, education has made most progress in the Burdwan Division, where the number of wholly illiterate persons is 8,028 in 10,000. The Presidency and Chittagong Divisions come next, with 8,442 and 8,414 respectively. The lowest on the list are the Feudatory States, with 9,548, Chota Nagpore with 9,539, Bhagulpore with 9,486, and Patna with 9,383. The small progress of education in Behar which these figures indicate is much to be regretted. The educational standard is, as might have been expected, much higher among Christians than among any other class. Out of every 10,000 Christian men and boys 5 years old and upwards, only 5,245 are wholly illiterate, 3,464 are able to read and write, and 1,289 are under instruction. Favourable as these proportions are when compared with those of Hindus and Mahomedans, they nevertheless indicate the existence of much ignorance among the Native Christians in spite of the efforts of Mission schools. If the proportion of persons of school-going age be taken to be 15 per cent. of the whole, as is usually done in European countries, it appears that out of every 100 boys in Bengal who might be at school, only about 20 are actually under instruction. In the different Provinces the numbers are, Bengal 26·54, Behar 10·55, Orissa 27·20, Chota Nagpore 9·03, and the Feudatory States 8·30. In Madras the percentage rises to 22·47 and in Bombay to 21·65. In the Punjab, however, which stands next to Bengal, it is only 9·45, in the Central Provinces 8·79, and in the North-Western Provinces 8·65. In the United Kingdom the corresponding proportion is as high as 86·36 per cent. Even more deplorable is the condition of female education. Of every 10,000 Hindu women and girls only 9 are at school, and only 16 can read and write, leaving 9,975 who are entirely illiterate.

The condition of the Mahomedan female population is still worse, for of every 10,000 of them only 7 are learning and 10 can read and write; so that 9,983 have no education whatever. This is not the place for an examination of the general educational policy of the State; but it may be mentioned that no effort is being spared by the Bengal Government to promote the advance of primary education, and that the grant for primary schools has been increased by a lakh of rupees in each of the past three years, and now stands at Rs. 7,00,000. The Director of Public Instruction bears evidence to the good results which have begun to declare themselves, and which may still be anticipated. "Throughout Orissa, and in the Burdwan and Chittagong Divisions, the system has expanded with extraordinary rapidity, and the number of pupils in primary schools of organized instruction varies in these Divisions from 25 to 29½ per 1,000 of the population. In the Presidency and Dacca Divisions the proportion of pupils to population falls to 13 and 10 per 1,000; but in both Divisions, and especially the latter, a further great extension of the system may be looked for."

Infirmities of the people.

The following table shows the number of persons who were found to be afflicted with each of the four great bodily and mental infirmities:—

Infirmities.	Numbers.			Proportion in 10,000.		
	Males.	Females.	Both sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both sexes.
Insane	18,336	12,399	30,735	5	3	4
Blind	47,086	50,264	97,350	13	14	14
Deaf-mutes	52,833	32,662	85,495	15	9	12
Lepers	42,283	14,240	56,523	12	4	8
Total ...	160,538	109,565	270,103	45	30	38

The proportion of the insane in Bengal is very small compared with that found in most European countries, but is borne out by the returns of other Provinces of India. There is reason to believe that some concealment took place in the case of each of the above infirmities, except, perhaps, in that of blindness. On the other hand the proportion of deaf-mutes is abnormally high, and the Deputy Superintendent inclines to the opinion that the figures returned under this head include a certain proportion of persons who are deaf only. Insanity is most prevalent in the Rajshahye Division, where the population is largely Mahomedan, and where ganja and its preparations are produced and extensively consumed Blindness appears to be most common in the Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions, and least prevalent in Chittagong and Dacca. No explanation of this has been suggested, except that the districts of Behar, where vaccination has made but little progress, are most exposed to the ravages of small-pox. Deaf-mutism also is found most frequently in this Province, and is least common in Chittagong and Dacca. Leprosy, by which term only black leprosy, the more virulent form of the disease, is meant, is by far most common in the Burdwan Division, where lepers number as many as 19 per 10,000 of the population. This Division is followed at a long interval by Orissa, with a proportion of 12, and Rajshahye and the Feudatory States with 9 each. The affection is least common in Chittagong. There is no doubt that concealment of lepers has occurred to a very considerable extent, and the Deputy Superintendent believes that for every leper that has been returned there are at least three persons in whom the disease has been more or less fully developed, but who have escaped enumeration.

In order to show the general results of the census, the following abstract statements are appended to the present chapter of this Report:—

I. Area and population of the several Provinces of Bengal.

II. Abstract of the area and population of each district arranged according to Provinces and Commissioner's division.

III. Statement showing the increase or decrease of the population, as compared with the census of 1872.

IV. General statement of the result of the census arranged with reference to age and sex.

V. General statement of the result of the census arranged with reference to civil condition and religion.

VI. General statement of the result of the census arranged with reference to education and religion.

VII. General statement of the result of the census arranged with reference to occupation.

VIII. Statement showing the distribution of the Hindu population according to caste.

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

I.—Area and Population of the several Provinces of Bengal.

PROVINCES.	Area in square miles.	Number of towns and villages.	NUMBER OF HOUSES.			Total population of both sexes.	Total males.	Total females.	Number of persons per square mile.	Number of towns or villages per square mile.	Number of houses per square mile.	Number of persons per occupied house.
			Occupied.	Unoccupied.	Total.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
The entire territory under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal	187,222	264,765	11,036,774	608,609	11,645,383	69,536,861	34,625,591	34,911,270	371·41	1·41	62·20	6·30
Bengal	70,430	117,294	5,657,044	297,313	5,954,357	35,607,628	17,857,655	17,749,973	505·57	1·67	84·54	6·29
Behar	44,139	77,407	3,520,896	229,162	3,750,058	23,127,104	11,385,836	11,741,268	523·96	1·75	84·96	6·57
Orissa	9,053	24,894	631,504	58,499	690,003	3,730,735	1,837,591	1,893,144	412·10	2·75	76·22	5·91
Chota Nagpore	26,966	29,111	739,503	17,154	756,657	4,225,989	2,093,569	2,132,420	156·72	1·08	28·06	5·71
Feudatory States ...	36,634	16,059	487,827	6,481	494,308	9,845,405	1,450,940	1,394,465	77·67	·44	13·49	5·83

NOTE.—From this and the following tables the areas of large rivers and the area of the Sunderbuns have been omitted. The latter is estimated to be 5,976 square miles.

III.—Statement showing the INCREASE *or* DECREASE *of*

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	Total Population of Both Sexes.			Males.	
	1872.	1881.	Increase (+) or decrease (—).	1872.	1881.
1	2	3	4	5	6
					BEN
Burdwan.					
Burdwan	1,483,850	1,391,823	—92,027	726,066	668,295
Bankoora	968,597	1,041,752	+73,155	480,339	507,136
Beerbhoom... ...	853,785	794,428	—59,357	408,578	381,563
Midnapore	2,545,179	2,517,802	—27,377	1,259,299	1,244,274
Hooghly	1,157,385	1,012,768	—144,617	559,449	488,952
Howrah	595,865	635,381	+39,516	292,758	316,479
Total ...	7,604,661	7,393,954	—210,707	3,726,489	3,606,699
Presidency.					
24-Pergunnahs ...	1,784,922	1,869,859	+84,937	928,495	975,430
Calcutta*	429,535	433,219	+3,684	282,506	288,817
Nuddea	1,812,795	2,017,847	+205,052	877,125	985,245
Jessore	1,451,507	1,577,249	+125,742	715,943	779,805
Khulna	1,046,878	1,079,948	+33,070	560,729	568,402
Moorshedabad ...	1,214,104	1,226,790	+12,686	580,165	586,483
Total ...	7,739,741	8,204,912	+465,171	3,944,963	4,184,182
Rajshahye.					
Dinagepore... ...	1,501,924	1,514,346	+12,422	776,431	782,292
Rajshahye	1,310,729	1,338,638	+27,909	650,586	660,226
Rungpore	2,153,686	2,097,964	—55,722	1,096,911	1,067,701
Bogra	689,467	734,358	+44,891	347,864	372,677
Pubna	1,211,594	1,311,728	+100,134	602,514	648,311
Darjeeling	94,712	155,179	+60,467	53,057	88,948
Julpigoree	418,665	581,562	+162,897	216,893	305,555
Total ...	7,380,777	7,733,775	+352,998	3,744,256	3,925,710
Dacca.					
Dacca ...	1,852,993	2,116,350	+263,357	905,775	1,033,863
Furreedpore ...	1,502,436	1,631,734	+129,298	736,788	805,989
Backergunge ...	1,887,586	1,900,889	+13,303	965,303	973,479
Myméns̄ingh ...	2,348,753	3,051,966	+703,213	1,187,345	1,553,397
Total ...	7,591,768	8,700,939	+1,109,171	3,795,211	4,366,728
Chittagong.					
Chittagong... ...	1,127,402	1,132,341	+4,939	536,059	531,649
Noakholly	840,376	820,772	—19,604	425,955	415,248
Tipperah	1,408,653	1,519,338	+110,685	719,120	770,893
Chittagong Hill Tracts	69,607	101,597	+31,990	40,883	56,546
Total ...	3,446,038	3,574,048	+128,010	1,722,017	1,774,336
Total for Bengal Proper... ...	33,762,985	35,607,628	+1,844,643	16,982,936	17,857,655

* These figures are taken from Mr. Beverley's Report

NOTE.—Wherever there has been a change in distric boundaries since 1872, the figures for that

the Population, as compared with the Census of 1872.

	Females.			Percentage of Variation, increase (+) or decrease (−).		
Increase (+) or decrease (−).	1872.	1881.	Increase (+) or decrease (−).	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
GAL.						
−57,771	757,784	723,528	−34,256	−6·2	−7·95	−4·52
+26,797	488,258	534,616	+46,358	+7·55	+5·57	+9·49
−27,015	445,207	412,865	−32,342	−6·95	−6·61	−7·26
−15,025	1,285,880	1,273,528	−12,352	−1·07	−1·19	−·95
−70,497	597,936	523,816	−74,120	−12·49	−12·6	−12·39
+23,721	303,107	318,902	+15,795	+6·63	+8·1	+5·21
−119,790	3,878,172	3,787,255	−90,917	−2·77	−3·21	−2·34
+46,935	856,427	894,429	+38,002	+4·61	+5·05	+4·43
+6,311	147,029	144,402	−2,627	+·85	+2·23	−1·78
+108,120	935,670	1,032,602	+96,932	+11·31	+12·32	+10·35
+63,862	735,564	797,444	+61,880	+8·66	+8·91	+8·41
+7,673	486,149	511,546	+25,397	+3·15	+1·36	+5·22
+6,318	633,939	640,307	+6,368	+1·04	+1·08	+1·
+239,219	3,794,778	4,020,730	+225,952	+6·01	+6·06	+5·95
+5,861	725,493	732,054	+6,561	+·82	+·75	+·9
+9,640	660,143	678,412	+18,269	+2·14	+1·48	+2·8
−29,210	1,056,775	1,030,263	−26,512	−2·58	−2·66	−2·5
+24,813	341,603	361,681	+20,078	+6·51	+7·13	+5·87
+45,797	609,080	663,417	+54,337	+8·26	+7·6	+8·92
+35,891	41,655	66,231	+24,576	+63·84	+67·64	+58·99
+88,662	201,772	276,007	+74,235	+38·9	+40·87	+36·79
+181,454	3,636,521	3,808,065	+171,544	+4·78	4·84	+4·71
+128,088	947,218	1,082,487	+135,269	+14·21	+14·14	+14·28
+69,261	765,648	825,745	+60,097	+8·6	+9·39	+7·84
+8,176	922,283	927,410	+5,127	+·7	+·84	+·55
+366,052	1,161,408	1,498,569	+337,161	+29·93	+30·82	+29·03
+571,517	3,796,557	4,334,211	+537,654	+14·61	+15·05	+14·16
−4,410	591,343	600,692	+9,349	+·43	−·82	+1·58
−10,707	414,421	405,524	−8,897	−2·33	−2·51	−2·14
+51,773	689,533	748,445	+58,912	+7·85	+7·19	+8·54
+15,663	28,724	45,051	+16,327	+45·95	+38·31	+56·84
+52,319	1,724,021	1,799,712	+75,691	+3·71	+3·03	+4·39
+924,719	16,830,049	17,749,973	+919,924	+5·46	+5·46	+5·46

on the Census of Calcutta taken in 1876.
year have been altered accordingly, and represent the population of the district as thus revised.

III.—Statement showing the INCREASE *or* DECREASE *of the*

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.		Total Population of Both Sexes.			Males.	
		1872.	1881.	Increase (+) or decrease (—).	1872.	1881.
1		2	3	4	5	6
						BE
Patna.	Patna	1,559,638	1,756,856	+197,218	761,877	858,783
	Gya	1,947,824	2,124,682	+176,858	953,205	1,043,441
	Shahabad	1,723,974	1,964,909	+240,935	835,374	950,250
	Mozufferpore ...	2,245,408	2,582,060	+336,652	1,107,016	1,265,731
	Durbhunga... ...	2,139,298	2,633,447	+494,149	1,084,748	1,295,788
	Sarun	2,063,860	2,280,382	+216,522	996,683	1,083,565
	Chumparun ...	1,440,815	1,721,608	+280,793	737,529	870,627
	Total ..	13,120,817	15,063,944	+1,943,127	6,476,432	7,368,185
Bhaugulpore.	Monghyr	1,814,538	1,969,774	+155,236	897,871	969,124
	Bhaugulpore ...	1,824,738	1,966,158	+141,420	916,386	979,119
	Purneah	1,714,795	1,848,687	+133,892	876,320	937,080
	Maldah	676,426	710,448	+34,022	331,087	346,998
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	1,259,287	1,568,093	+308,806	629,716	785,330
	Total ...	7,289,784	8,063,160	+773,376	3,651,380	4,017,651
	Total for Behar...	20,410,601	23,127,104	+2,716,503	10,127,812	11,385,836
						ORIS
Orissa.	Cuttack	1,494,784	1,738,165	+243,381	725,330	849,254
	Pooree	769,674	888,487	+118,813	389,449	446,609
	Balasore	770,232	945,280	+175,048	379,077	461,461
	Angul	78,374	101,903	+23,529	39,777	51,819
	Banki	49,426	56,900	+7,474	24,970	28,448
	Total for Orissa...	3,162,490	3,730,735	+568,245	1,558,603	1,837,591
						CHOTA
Chota Nagpore.	Hazaribagh ...	771,875	1,104,742	+332,867	397,045	544,908
	Lohardugga ...	1,237,123	1,609,244	+372,121	621,548	796,657
	Singbhoom ...	318,180	453,775	+135,595	159,285	226,681
	Manbhoom ...	820,521	1,058,228	+237,707	413,371	525,328
	Total for Chota Nagpore ...	3,147,699	4,225,989	+1,078,290	1,591,249	2,093,569
	Grand Total for the Province ...	60,483,775	66,691,456	+6,207,681	30,210,600	33,174,651
						FEUDATORY
Cooch Behar		532,565	602,624	+70,059	278,585	311,678
Hill Tipperah		35,262	95,637	+60,375	18,262	51,458
Tributary States, Orissa ...		1,155,509	1,469,142	+313,633	581,458	742,566
Ditto, Chota Nagpore		498,607	678,002	+179,395	252,461	345,238
Total for Feudatory States		2,221,943	2,845,405	+623,462	1,130,766	1,450,040
Grand Total, including Feudatory States ...		62,705,718	69,536,861	+6,831,143	31,341,366	34,625,591

NOTE.—Wherever there has been a change in district boundaries since 1872, the figures for that

Population, as compared with the Census of 1872—concluded.

	Females.			Percentage of Variation, Increase (+) or Decrease (−).		
Increase (+) or decrease (−).	1872.	1881.	Increase (+) or decrease (−).	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
HAR.						
+96,906	797,761	898,073	+100,312	+12·64	+12·71	+12·57
+90,236	994,619	1,081,241	+86,622	+9·07	+9·46	+8·7
+114,876	888,600	1,014,659	+126,059	+13·97	+13·75	+14·18
+158,715	1,138,392	1,316,329	+177,937	+14·99	+14·33	+15·63
+211,040	1,054,550	1,337,659	+283,109	+23·09	+19·45	+26·84
+86,882	1,067,177	1,196,817	+129,640	+10·49	+8·71	+12·14
+133,098	703,286	850,981	+147,695	+19·48	+18·04	+21·
+891,753	6,644,385	7,695,759	+1,051,374	+14·8	+13·76	+15·82
+71,253	916,667	1,000,650	+83,983	+8·55	+7·93	+9·16
+62,733	908,352	987,039	+78,687	+7·75	+6·84	+8·66
+60,760	838,475	911,607	+73,132	+7·8	+6·93	+8·72
+15,911	345,539	363,450	+18,111	+5·02	+4·8	+5·24
+155,614	629,571	782,763	+153,192	+24·52	+24·71	+24·33
+366,271	3,638,404	4,045,509	+407,105	+10·6	+10·03	+11·18
+1,258,024	10,282,789	11,741,268	+1,458,479	+13·3	+12·42	+14·18
SA.						
+123,924	769,454	888,911	+119,457	+16·29	+17·08	+15·52
+57,160	380,225	441,878	+61,653	+15·43	+14·67	+16·21
+82,384	391,155	483,819	+92,664	+22·72	+21·73	+23·68
+12,042	38,597	50,084	+11,487	+30·81	+30.27	+29·76
+3,478	24,456	28,452	+3,996	+15·12	+13·92	+16·33
+278,988	1,603,887	1,893,144	+289,257	+17·9	+17·89	+18·03
NAGPORE.						
+147,858	374,830	559,839	+185,009	+43·12	+37·23	+49·62
+175,109	615,575	812,587	+197,012	+30·08	+28·17	+32·
+67,396	158,895	227,094	+68,199	+42·61	+42·31	+42·92
+111,957	407,150	532,900	+125,750	+28·97	+27·08	+30·88
+502,320	1,556,450	2,132,420	+575,970	+34·26	+31·56	+37·
+2,964,051	30,273,175	33,516,805	+3,243,630	+10·26	+9·81	+10·71
STATES.						
+33,093	253,980	290,946	+36,966	+13·15	+11·87	+14·55
+33,196	17,000	44,179	+27,179	+171·21	+181·77	+159·87
+161,108	574,051	726,576	+152,525	+27·14	+27·70	+26·57
+92,777	246,146	332,764	+86,618	+35·97	+36·74	+35·19
+320,174	1,091,177	1,394,465	+303,288	+28·06	+28·31	+27·71
+3,284,225	31,364,352	34,911,270	+3,546,918	+10·89	+10·47	+11·3

year have been altered accordingly, and represent the population of the district as thus revised.

IV.—General Statement of the Result of the Census,

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.		Under one year.		1.		2.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
		2	3	4	5	6	7
BEN							
BURDWAN ...	Burdwan	15,409	16,069	12,179	12,983	15,768	17,413
	Bankoorah	13,623	13,860	10,694	11,530	14,978	16,608
	Beerbhoom	8,054	8,035	7,220	7,863	9,473	10,644
	Midnapore	31,191	31,580	25,834	27,671	33,620	36,848
	Hooghly	13,268	13,650	9,673	10,149	11,325	11,956
	Howrah	9,251	9,371	6,873	7,340	8,461	9,077
	Total ...	90,796	92,965	72,473	77,536	93,625	102,546
PRESIDENCY ...	24-Pergunnahs	24,161	24,105	19,436	21,055	25,067	28,160
	Calcutta	3,185	2,902	2,277	2,204	2,6[illegible]	2,767
	Nuddea	23,487	23,872	20,701	22,074	31,467	33,543
	Jessore	21,318	20,916	17,005	17,902	23,113	25,104
	Khulna	14,638	15,402	11,855	12,983	15,331	16,837
	Moorshedabad	13,671	14,179	11,844	12,959	17,415	19,227
	Total ...	100,460	101,376	83,118	89,177	115,081	125,638
RAJSHAHYE ...	Dinagepore	17,569	17,440	14,782	15,734	21,257	23,234
	Rajshahye	15,422	15,920	13,680	14,611	20,398	22,153
	Rungpore	25,682	25,972	21,533	23,029	29,954	32,615
	Bogra	7,393	7,937	8,384	9,309	11,545	13,289
	Pubna	18,023	18,152	14,867	16,585	21,927	25,010
	Darjeeling	1,564	1,560	1,729	1,770	2,126	2,078
	Julpigoree	8,088	8,046	5,950	6,082	8,701	8,952
	Total ...	93,741	95,027	80,925	87,120	115,908	127,331
DACCA	Dacca	29,222	29,618	26,662	28,621	36,117	39,615
	Furreedpore	19,907	20,605	21,036	22,507	26,508	27,977
	Backergunge	23,096	23,641	24,669	25,780	31,877	33,788
	Mymensingh	36,452	37,977	36,366	39,189	49,385	54,937
	Total ...	108,677	111,841	108,733	116,097	143,887	156,317
CHITTAGONG ...	Chittagong	18,462	16,570	15,266	15,584	18,099	18,313
	Noakholly	11,396	11,882	11,149	11,525	15,355	15,716
	Tipperah	17,553	18,002	19,696	20,618	25,609	28,535
	Chittagong Hill Tracts...	Not available.					
	Total ...	45,411	46,454	46,111	47,727	59,063	62,564
TOTAL FOR BENGAL PROPER ...		439,085	447,663	391,360	417,657	527,564	574,396

arranged with reference to Age and Sex.

3.		4.		5 to 9.		10 to 14.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
GAL.							
18,770	20,287	17,570	19,279	86,388	79,844	73,883	60,218
17,708	18,738	15,910	15,249	78,173	72,455	60,521	47,569
11,465	12,822	10,272	10,144	50,734	49,862	43,199	37,436
39,699	42,889	35,249	32,627	182,844	164,339	139,673	107,587
[illegible]	12,370	12,321	10,827	53,938	47,958	50,165	41,901
9,331	[illegible],714	8,964	8,107	40,570	37,366	34,057	27,230
109,162	116,820	100,286	93,233	492,647	451,804	400,998	321,941
29,084	31,[illegible]	27,055	25,407	128,248	113,449	98,226	75,985
3,018	3,114	2,875	2,671	14,472	12,963	17,382	10,260
35,684	37,593	32,447	31,698	160,180	147,366	116,560	94,246
26,266	27,408	25,505	24,604	123,134	111,601	88,013	70,003
17,731	18,914	17,328	16,742	79,789	72,190	61,393	47,667
21,122	22,445	18,445	17,955	92,500	87,118	68,091	53,498
132,855	141,320	123,655	119,077	598,323	544,687	449,665	351,654
24,428	27,375	22,979	23,952	132,998	120,688	84,749	64,746
23,839	26,366	20,395	20,928	111,119	103,378	77,165	56,553
35,129	37,873	31,349	32,154	167,185	149,390	113,135	88,158
13,864	15,747	11,840	12,474	63,664	57,926	41,275	31,259
26,644	29,555	22,439	22,555	108,140	102,073	72,381	53,477
2,315	2,310	2,002	1,908	9,750	8,890	8,779	6,869
9,745	10,232	9,745	9,573	46,138	41,813	34,257	26,594
135,964	149,458	120,749	123,544	638,994	584,158	431,741	327,661
40,797	43,567	37,183	37,589	169,900	164,578	124,703	101,497
29,380	31,072	28,251	27,538	123,987	115,983	94,906	78,846
33,172	34,927	31,885	32,787	134,647	132,201	107,586	87,315
58,405	63,704	53,125	54,195	256,586	242,284	171,043	134,485
161,754	173,270	150,444	152,109	685,120	655,046	498,328	402,143
19,115	20,000	20,958	20,025	95,074	91,744	75,088	60,888
14,353	14,914	14,032	14,381	67,338	64,633	50,185	38,066
27,836	30,551	27,474	28,748	118,699	117,659	91,852	71,905
Not available.							
61,304	65,465	63,064	63,154	282,011	274,036	217,125	171,769
601,039	646,333	558,198	551,117	2,697,095	2,509,731	1,997,857	1,575,158

IV.—General Statement of the Result of the Census,

BENGAL

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.		15 to 19.		20 to 24.		25 to 29.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
		16	17	18	19	20	21
BURDWAN	Burdwan	59,178	63,173	51,608	61,704	65,926	75,926
	Bankoorah	47,030	47,311	36,313	45,150	44,030	53,816
	Beerbhoom	31,833	35,057	26,655	32,186	36,492	40,329
	Midnapore	112,824	116,110	106,203	128,041	112,699	128,939
	Hooghly	44,034	46,839	43,445	52,805	48,233	54,988
	Howrah	28,022	29,172	27,729	32,426	29,685	31,382
	Total	322,921	337,662	292,013	352,312	337,065	384,783
PRESIDENCY	24-Pergunnahs	73,284	77,934	77,012	[illegible]	98,806	89,949
	Calcutta	22,807	10,474	37,546	14,427	44,3[illegible]5	15,615
	Nuddea	73,767	75,074	64,802	81,019	81,748	94,115
	Jessore	57,712	62,797	53,865	67,057	67,967	75,841
	Khulna	46,159	49,750	42,416	44,784	56,228	47,366
	Moorshedabad	47,257	51,302	40,964	52,260	51,038	59,364
	Total	320,986	327,331	316,605	345,646	400,112	382,250
RAJSHAHYE	Dinagepore	55,988	60,857	47,774	58,809	75,008	75,077
	Rajshahye	47,316	56,952	44,658	63,263	57,196	64,949
	Rungpore	73,394	81,152	72,676	87,809	96,305	99,579
	Bogra	25,809	33,794	24,547	33,359	33,075	33,528
	Pubna	45,009	49,324	40,319	53,614	51,234	57,564
	Darjeeling	7,403	5,696	9,340	6,890	11,380	7,183
	Julpigoree	21,105	20,522	21,293	22,059	27,117	25,810
	Total	276,204	308,297	260,607	325,893	351,375	364,290
DACCA	Dacca	75,149	86,623	65,027	88,502	83,260	95,707
	Furreedpore	58,242	61,077	53,991	67,861	67,458	78,112
	Backergunge	77,333	86,019	76,434	88,173	90,924	36,702
	Mymensingh	118,118	129,867	105,759	122,684	143,771	136,652
	Total	328,842	365,386	301,211	366,720	385,413	397,173
CHITTAGONG	Chittagong	43,220	53,001	34,840	54,246	33,870	44,599
	Noakholly	32,356	37,065	27,338	35,927	32,259	34,673
	Tipperah	60,879	66,379	54,193	65,370	65,065	65,564
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Not available.					
	Total	136,455	156,445	116,371	155,543	131,194	144,836
TOTAL FOR BENGAL PROPER		1,385,408	1,495,121	1,286,807	1,546,114	1,605,159	1,673,332

arranged with reference to Age and Sex—continued.

30 to 34.		35 to 39.		40 to 44.		45 to 49.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
—*continued.*							
59,510	65,415	48,978	48,019	43,702	50,039	28,228	29,098
37,936	43,471	32,903	32,027	27,168	30,942	19,063	18,947
31,988	34,759	28,392	27,627	23,443	27,147	17,588	18,263
107,267	115,240	77,074	66,678	82,734	83,832	35,413	32,548
[illegible]	50,287	34,701	33,375	36,046	40,401	19,138	20,619
29,137	[illegible]	20,059	16,948	21,015	20,704	9,731	9,349
312,097	336,866	242,102	224,674	234,108	253,965	129,161	129,424
95,099	[illegible]	60,162	45,204	69,100	57,385	33,657	25,510
44,543	16,922	25,879	9,810	29,203	13,280	11,122	5,632
75,451	85,944	59,429	55,109	61,521	68,105	37,477	35,538
59,579	64,056	43,258	41,833	47,093	50,570	30,249	27,383
48,850	39,329	36,190	24,029	35,257	29,105	21,146	15,610
47,570	54,695	37,274	35,187	36,168	45,048	20,611	22,175
371,101	340,874	273,192	211,172	278,342	263,493	154,262	131,848
66,831	63,265	56,877	32,140	53,848	44,879	28,328	19,736
60,229	59,999	40,423	31,615	43,849	44,364	20,809	18,558
95,132	92,530	76,738	56,481	77,361	69,960	37,525	23,442
33,252	29,540	25,115	17,131	24,140	20,397	12,106	8,807
51,505	53,851	41,968	33,004	40,097	40,288	22,750	18,524
9,945	6,082	6,111	3,419	5,015	3,702	2,455	1,565
25,548	23,692	20,916	14,650	21,749	17,586	11,449	7,864
342,442	328,968	268,153	195,440	266,959	241,176	135,512	103,490
76,583	81,605	64,823	56,585	55,885	60,559	37,253	33,215
64,159	69,355	48,527	41,616	40,278	52,139	29,177	25,00
78,905	68,344	63,387	47,964	56,808	50,040	36,627	27,242
124,374	114,187	104,209	75,847	86,517	79,734	54,071	43,555
344,021	330,491	280,946	222,012	248,488	242,472	157,128.	129,015
40,512	53,204	22,098	21,901	27,467	37,955	15,545	16,237
31,285	30,554	24,407	19,220	23,031	22,115	14,600	10,090
60,036	56,566	47,874	37,068	43,477	40,924	27,920	20,632
Not available.							
131,833	140,324	94,379	78,189	93,975	100,994	58,065	46,959
1,501,494	1,477,523	1,158,772	931,487	1,121,872	1,102,100	634,128	540,736

IV.—General Statement of the Result of the Census,

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.		50 to 54.		55 to 59.		60 and
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.
		30	31	32	33	34
						BENGAL
BURDWAN ...	Burdwan	27,243	36,693	14,719	18,189	29,317
	Bankoorah	17,832	22,182	10,581	11,629	22,313
	Beerbhoom	16,562	20,465	9,725	11,241	18,167
	Midnapore	47,785	58,078	17,852	19,272	55,959
	Hooghly	20,740	27,867	11,110	13,272	22,103
	Howrah	11,075	14,081	5,826	6,537	16,526
	Total ...	141,237	179,366	65,813	80,140	164,385
PRESIDENCY ...	24-Pergunnahs	39,020	39,315	3,867	15,314	54,638
	Calcutta	13,130	8,314	4,090	2,822	10,181
	Nuddea	39,328	48,954	20,007	22,648	50,631
	Jessore	31,027	38,240	15,699	15,799	42,810
	Khulna	22,163	20,834	10,455	8,382	31,160
	Moorshedabad	22,838	31,960	9,954	12,196	29,345
	Total ...	168,406	187,617	77,072	77,161	218,765
RAJSHAHYE ...	Dinagepore	32,375	29,829	9,581	8,013	36,348
	Rajshahye	25,074	29,562	7,941	8,708	30,203
	Rungpore	47,855	49,129	14,057	13,057	52,263
	Bogra	15,057	14,132	3,892	3,418	17,549
	Pubna	25,987	29,265	8,799	8,971	35,811
	Darjeeling	3,244	2,116	1,061	806	3,642
	Julpigoree	13,228	11,888	4,755	3,954	15,655
	Total ...	162,820	165,921	50,086	46,927	191,471
DACCA	Dacca	37,869	43,456	15,577	15,516	57,427
	Furreedpore	34,759	38,140	13,014	12,353	43,135
	Backergunge	39,581	36,802	17,723	13,872	48,487
	Mymensingh	56,737	58,582	21,063	19,264	76,892
	Total ...	168,946	176,980	67,377	60,905	225,941
CHITTAGONG ...	Chittagong	20,785	29,856	8,388	8,283	23,638
	Noakholly	17,675	16,761	7,082	4,731	20,703
	Tipperah	31,053	29,772	12,220	9,619	39,051
	Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	Not available.				
	Total ...	69,513	76,389	27,690	22,633	83,392
TOTAL FOR BENGAL PROPER ...		710,922	786,273	292,038	287,766	883,954

arranged with reference to Age and Sex—continued.

upwards.	Unspecified.		Total, all Ages.		
Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
35	36	37	38	39	40
—*concluded.*					
50,199	424	500	*668,295*	723,528	1,391,823
33,378	300	351	*507,136*	534,616	1,041,752
28,037	301	368	*381,563*	412,865	794,428
81,042	294	407	*1,244,274*	1,273,528	2,517,802
34,182	324	370	*488,952*	523,816	1,012,768
22,250	167	134	*316,479*	318,902	635,381
249,088	1,810	2,130	3,606,699	3,787,255	7,393,954
58,873	[illegible]	501	*975,430*	894,429	1,869,859
10,193	94	42	*288,817*	144,402	433,219
74,454	608	650	*985,245*	1,032,602	2,017,847
54,018	292	422	*779,805*	707,444	1,577,249
31,203	313	329	*568,402*	511,546	1,079,948
48,291	367	453	*586,483*	640,307	1,226,790
278,012	2,182	2,397	4,184,182	4,020,730	8,204,912
38,051	572	545	*782,292*	732,054	1,514,346
40,084	415	444	*660,226*	678,412	1,338,638
62,424	368	500	*1,067,701*	1,030,263	2,097,964
19,421	170	213	*372,677*	361,681	734,358
51,152	321	453	*648,311*	663,417	1,311,728
3,311	97	76	*88,948*	66,231	155,179
16,586	116	104	*305,555*	270,007	581,562
231,029	2,059	2,335	3,925,710	3,808,065	7,733,775
75,287	336	347	*1,033,863*	1,082,487	2,116,350
54,869	274	392	*805,989*	825,745	1,631,734
50,456	338	457	*973,479*	927,410	1,900,889
3,376	524	750	*1,553,397*	1,498,569	3,051,966
274,288	1,472	1,946	4,366,728	4,334,211	8,700,939
37,987	324	299	*531,649*	600,692	1,132,341
22,226	104	145	*415,248*	405,524	820,772
40,050	406	483	*770,893*	748,445	1,519,338
Not available.			*56,546*	45,051	101,597
100,263	834	927	1,774,336	1,799,712	3,574,048
1,132,680	8,357	9,735	17,857,655	17,749,973	35,607,628

IV.—General Statement of the Result of the Census,

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.		Under one year.		1.		2.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
							BE
PATNA	Patna	20,296	21,122	22,081	24,264	24,406	27,639
	Gya	21,186	21,580	28,595	31,533	29,733	34,890
	Shahabad	22,325	22,560	24,837	26,772	26,710	30,784
	Mozufferpore	22,159	22,284	30,723	32,675	37,749	42,325
	Durbhunga	24,854	25,465	30,969	33,536	37,[illegible]32	41,863
	Sarun	26,906	26,534	27,257	29,224	30,802	35,999
	Chumparun	21,779	22,427	19,517	21,527	22,98[illegible]	26,247
	Total ...	159,505	161,972	183,979	199,531	210,120	239,747
BHAUGULPORE ...	Monghyr	18,293	18,569	26,111	28,265	27,360	31,770
	Bhaugulpore	18,456	18,396	21,475	22,698	25,898	28,952
	Purneah	18,747	19,049	18,731	19,689	23,914	26,596
	Maldah	9,888	9,914	7,393	7,913	10,[illegible]38	11,365
	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	15,424	15,803	20,286	22,524	24,712	29,811
	Total ...	80,808	81,731	93,996	101,089	112,122	128,494
TOTAL FOR BEHAR ...		240,313	243,703	277,975	300,620	322,242	368,241
							ORIS
ORISSA	Cuttack	18,299	18,131	23,955	24,689	26,011	27,539
	Pooree	7,398	7,809	11,504	12,347	13,727	14,748
	Balasore	10,218	10,321	11,851	12,614	14,549	15,258
	Angul	1,125	1,210	1,673	1,763	1,868	1,946
	Banki	536	586	75	720	806	902
TOTAL FOR ORISSA ...		37,576	38,057	49,658	52,133	56,961	60,393
							CHOTA
CHOTA NAGPORE...	Hazaribagh	71,373	17,353	15,390	16,648	15,014	17,003
	Lohardugga	21,003	21,589	20,553	22,355	23,807	28,690
	Singbhoom	4,390	4,347	5,867	6,128	6,754	7,418
	Manbhoom	14,264	14,353	12,977	14,761	14,593	17,094
TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE.		57,030	57,642	54,787	59,892	60,168	71,459
Grand Total for the Province.		774,004	787,065	773,780	830,302	966,935	1,074,489
							FEUDATORY
Coach Behar		8,408	8,508	6,392	6,913	8,735	9,547
Hill Tipperah		Not available.					
Tributary States, Orissa...		10,146	10,338	21,026	21,902	23,755	5,955
Ditto, Chota Nagpore		6,407	6,573	9,352	9,837	9,734	),884
TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES.		24,961	25,419	36,770	38,652	,224	386
Grand Total including Feudatory States.		798,965	812,484	810,550	868,954	09,159	1,120,875

arranged with reference to Age and Sex—continued.

3.		4.		5 to 9.		10 to 14.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
HAR.							
29,313	32,599	25,828	26,453	117,411	113,890	91,537	75,694
39,137	44,270	31,285	35,150	150,076	140,888	114,033	95,925
33,353	37,082	32,501	32,944	142,359	128,999	112,846	90,647
46,438	51,878	41,092	42,671	203,143	194,109	143,759	113,938
45,414	49,551	40,768	42,362	204,981	197,290	140,278	113,066
36,990	43,068	36,706	39,167	170,863	162,949	132,029	105,597
27,730	32,125	25,807	27,320	125,048	118,482	97,359	77,713
258,375	290,573	236,987	246,067	1,113,881	1,057,625	832,441	672,580
35,717	41,223	30,280	31,662	153,224	146,370	111,041	91,899
33,859	37,852	29,428	29,952	159,249	152,180	114,356	96,603
29,434	33,051	29,853	31,464	148,413	136,018	108,281	84,941
11,775	13,202	10,607	11,077	55,311	53,577	40,030	38,213
33,257	38,804	27,846	30,265	148,064	140,238	99,350	81,085
143,982	164,714	128,014	134,420	664,261	628,992	473,658	384,741
402,357	455,287	365,001	380,487	1,778,142	1,686,617	1,306,099	1,057,321
SA.							
29,310	31,740	28,077	28,015	135,449	126,596	98,652	87,697
15,203	17,058	14,286	14,505	65,357	61,890	48,070	41,302
15,454	17,013	13,944	13,636	72,315	68,532	55,170	48,428
1,828	2,203	1,705	1,768	8,230	8,246	5,874	5,049
934	1,006	802	821	3,907	3,916	3,105	2,706
62,729	69,020	59,714	58,745	285,258	269,180	210,871	185,182
NAGPORE.							
24,104	27,822	20,044	20,982	96,489	89,853	64,062	52,912
36,691	41,795	31,434	33,255	140,115	129,556	101,660	79,070
9,235	10,192	7,986	8,089	37,830	36,485	28,342	23,042
21,195	24,891	16,415	16,831	93,442	88,266	61,091	45,671
91,225	104,700	75,879	79,157	368,236	344,160	255,155	200,695
1,157,350	1,275,340	1,058,792	1,069,506	5,128,731	4,809,688	3,769,982	3,018,356
STATES.							
10,087	11,239	9,101	9,363	47,724	45,696	32,626	28,826
Not available.							
29,520	32,576	23,197	24,043	123,211	115,160	83,996	63,114
15,291	17,054	12,863	13,277	63,826	57,851	44,178	32,727
54,898	60,869	45,161	46,683	234,761	218,707	160,800	119,167
1,212,248	1,336,209	1,103,953	1,116,189	5,363,492	5,028,395	3,930,782	3,137,523

IV.—General Statement of the Result of the Census,

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.		15 to 19.		20 to 24.		25 to 29.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
		16	17	18	19	20	21
BEHAR							
PATNA	Patna	59,257	53,949	64,265	73,437	73,882	80,277
	Gya	70,752	68,648	75,876	89,844	88,812	98,223
	Shahabad	66,099	60,443	70,780	81,455	81,923	93,336
	Mozufferpore	88,081	79,163	84,947	100,391	105,748	119,480
	Durbhunga	91,380	87,348	82,430	103,905	115,444	129,262
	Sarun	77,483	69,878	74,249	90,835	85,573	109,532
	Chumparun	62,275	52,052	63,458	68,048	78,[illegible]	79,501
	Total ...	516,227	471,481	516,005	609,605	629,602	709,681
BHAUGULPORE...	Monghyr	69,138	66,075	60,292	76,473	81,129	93,072
	Bhaugulpore	71,183	70,322	62,475	8[illegible]	92,131	99,022
	Purneah	70,140	66,007	57,512	70,154	89,[illegible]13	94,196
	Maldah	28,335	31,505	22,642	28,576	31,544	33,699
	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	57,272	56,347	45,906	56,761	61,444	66,547
	Total ...	296,068	290,856	248,827	313,687	355,661	386,536
	TOTAL FOR BEHAR ...	812,295	762,337	764,832	921,692	985,263	1,096,217
ORISSA							
ORISSA	Cuttack	67,957	63,598	74,283	76,198	70,231	73,080
	Pooree	35,064	31,798	40,504	39,570	39,811	38,210
	Balasore	38,343	34,755	42,070	43,315	37,861	40,644
	Angul	4,027	4,004	3,797	4,595	5,069	4,458
	Banki	2,369	2,377	2,535	2,573	2,461	2,278
	TOTAL FOR ORISSA ...	147,760	136,532	163,189	166,251	155,433	158,670
CHOTA							
CHOTA NAGPORE	Hazaribagh	37,530	38,154	35,941	46,585	44,548	53,294
	Lohardugga	56,992	58,011	55,832	70,693	64,501	73,969
	Singbhoom	18,778	19,259	15,540	19,573	18,852	20,392
	Manbhoom	46,309	44,379	29,990	39,347	46,081	52,715
	TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE.	159,618	159,803	137,309	176,198	173,982	200,370
	Grand Total for the Province.	2,505,081	2,553,793	2,352,137	2,810,255	2,919,837	3,128,589
FEUDATORY							
Cooch Behar		23,450	23,495	21,433	24,560	27,045	27,384
Hill Tipperah		Not available.					
Tributary States, Orissa		58,437	61,073	57,040	66,734	68,169	66,014
Ditto, Chota Nagpore		23,863	24,015	23,625	30,725	29,578	31,326
TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES ...		105,750	108,583	102,098	122,019	124,792	124,724
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.		2,610,831	2,662,376	2,454,235	2,932,274	3,044,629	3,253,313

arranged with reference to Age and Sex—continued.

30 to 34.		35 to 39.		40 to 44.		45 to 49.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
—*continued.*							
75,345	77,982	49,777	53,074	56,983	61,950	34,559	34,561
92,348	94,923	61,361	66,013	71,413	73,631	40,784	40,023
83,059	93,883	57,053	65,059	58,465	69,629	32,830	36,499
110,831	112,390	75,739	84,190	81,788	86,527	49,355	53,866
119,639	118,087	80,267	84,344	88,510	89,128	51,723	51,590
91,235	114,410	64,362	80,618	68,639	85,325	39,914	45,041
81,149	76,139	58,349	56,082	58,033	53,508	35,385	32,668
653,606	687,814	446,908	489,389	483,831	519,698	284,550	294,248
87,097	89,268	5[illegible],354	58,170	67,141	66,966	36,332	33,628
95,897	90,[illegible]	62,008	56,118	65,235	60,023	34,173	31,025
85,328	86,391	67,104	53,248	62,348	57,758	37,971	29,829
28,097	29,235	23,621	19,583	20,832	22,247	12,199	11,747
61,387	61,385	47,806	39,652	43,203	40,817	24,404	20,819
357,806	356,560	256,893	226,771	258,759	247,811	145,169	127,048
1,011,412	1,044,374	703,801	716,160	742,590	767,509	429,719	421,296
—*continued.*							
71,462	75,671	43,788	41,209	47,155	62,335	22,812	21,887
39,577	39,835	25,507	21,019	28,391	31,361	13,869	10,321
38,507	43,339	25,517	24,451	30,005	36,798	13,209	12,507
4,527	4,081	2,712	1,777	2,962	2,817	1,062	751
2,202	2,246	1,435	1,295	1,667	1,865	912	765
156,275	165,172	98,759	89,751	110,180	135,176	51,864	46,231
NAGPORE—*continued.*							
46,963	47,955	32,565	30,697	30,850	31,236	17,426	15,765
69,420	67,418	45,257	41,714	44,410	44,468	21,647	21,459
18,091	18,935	14,828	12,263	13,923	13,382	6,007	5,750
41,004	40,645	35,138	29,821	26,059	27,632	17,427	15,951
175,478	174,973	127,788	114,495	115,242	116,718	62,507	58,925
2,844,659	2,862,042	2,089,120	1,851,893	2,089,884	2,121,503	1,178,218	1,067,188
STATES—*continued.*							
25,051	24,204	21,425	15,586	21,765	18,309	11,798	8,436
Not available.							
65,947	64,107	42,676	32,761	47,674	45,471	19,089	16,273
31,081	29,328	18,668	17,174	23,160	18,803	8,436	7,357
122,079	117,639	82,769	65,521	92,599	82,583	39,323	32,066
2,966,738	2,979,681	2,171,889	1,917,414	2,182,483	2,204,086	1,217,541	1,099,254

IV.—General Statement of the Result of the Census,

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	50 to 54.		55 to 59.		60 and
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.
	30	31	32	33	34
BEHAR					
PATNA ... ... Patna	41,587	46,000	17,969	19,774	53,921
Gya	49,871	50,872	20,360	21,380	53,714
Shahabad...	40,113	48,284	14,276	17,124	49,232
Mozufferpore	56,423	59,848	24,317	28,817	62,956
Durbhunga	58,564	60,389	23,039	27,665	58,521
Sarun	45,952	55,078	18,100	21,082	55,746
Chumparun	36,536	35,073	15,315	16,998	41,008
Total ...	329,046	355,544	134,276	152,840	375,188
BHAUGULPORE ... Monghyr	43,763	43,614	16,966	17,139	47,520
Bhaugulpore	38,833	38,580	15,144	13,174	38,766
Purneah	36,481	36,240	14,389	15,749	38,515
Maldah	12,272	15,279	4,831	5,376	17,323
Sonthal Pergunnahs	28,620	26,852	11,320	11,683	34,392
Total ...	159,969	160,565	62,650	63,121	176,516
TOTAL FOR BEHAR ...	489,015	516,109	196,926	215,961	551,704
ORISSA					
ORISSA ... ... Cuttack	37,834	48,096	12,967	12,625	39,779
Pooree	21,805	24,065	7,274	5,884	19,361
Balasore	18,451	23,537	6,353	6,544	17,523
Angul	2,234	2,159	500	377	2,620
Banki	1,327	1,427	558	460	1,393
TOTAL FOR ORISSA ...	81,651	99,284	27,652	25,890	80,676
CHOTA					
CHOTA NAGPORE... Hazaribagh	19,670	20,229	7,796	7,601	18,601
Lohardugga	26,276	29,082	9,650	11,086	27,083
Singbhoom	8,397	8,079	2,792	3,212	9,015
Manbhoom	17,964	19,893	9,332	9,273	21,733
TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE	72,307	77,283	29,570	31,172	76,432
Grand Total for the Province.	1,353,895	1,478,949	546,186	560,789	1,592,766
FEUDATORY					
Cooch Behar	14,076	12,874	4,976	4,031	17,504
Hill Tipperah	Not available.				
Tributary States, Orissa	31,052	32,450	9,035	8,485	28,453
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	11,633	10,106	2,722	2,839	10,781
TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES ...	56,761	55,430	16,733	15,355	56,738
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.	1,410,656	1,534,379	562,919	576,144	1,649,504

arranged with reference to Age and Sex—concluded.

upwards.	Unspecified.		Total, all Ages.		
Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
35	36	37	38	39	40
—*concluded.*					
74,981	366	418	858,783	898,073	1,756,856
72,847	505	531	1,043,441	1,081,241	2,124,682
77,567	580	592	950,250	1,014,659	1,964,909
91,223	483	546	1,265,731	1,316,329	2,582,060
82,297	385	412	1,295,788	1,337,659	2,633,447
81,703	759	777	1,083,565	1,196,817	2,280,382
[illegible]	580	565	870,627	850,981	1,721,608
535,124	3,658	3,840	7,368,185	7,695,759	15,063,944
65,546	760	941	969,124	1,000,650	1,969,774
56,961	553	611	979,119	987,039	1,966,158
54,440	506	522	937,080	911,607	1,848,687
25,799	120	143	346,998	363,450	710,448
42,655	547	715	785,330	782,763	1,568,093
245,441	2,492	2,932	4,017,651	4,045,509	8,063,160
780,565	6,150	6,772	11,385,836	11,741,268	23,127,104
—*concluded.*					
69,450	333	355	849,254	888,011	1,738,165
30,040	101	116	446,609	441,878	888,487
31,979	121	148	461,461	483,819	945,280
2,878	6	2	51,819	50,084	101,903
1,964	824	545	28,448	28,452	56,900
136,311	1,385	1,166	1,837,591	1,893,144	3,730,735
NAGPORE—*concluded.*					
24,881	168	209	544,903	559,839	1,104,742
37,891	326	486	796,657	812,587	1,609,244
10,469		65	226,681	227,094	453,775
30,353	314	424	525,328	532,900	1,058,228
103,594	856	1,184	2,093,569	2,132,420	4,225,989
2,153,150	16,748	18,857	33,174,651	33,516,805	66,691,456
STATES—*concluded.*					
17,384	82	91	311,678	290,946	602,624
	Not available.		51,458	44,179	95,637
39,990	143	130	742,566	726,576	1,469,142
12,832	40	56	345,238	332,764	678,002
70,206	265	277	1,450,940	1,394,465	2,845,405
2,223,356	17,013	19,134	34,625,591	34,911,270	69,536,861

V.—General Statement of the Result of the Census, arranged

SIN

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.		Hindus.		Mahomedans.		Christians.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7

BEN

Burdwan	Burdwan	243,691	116,446	60,338	29,381	266	207
	Bankoorah	222,600	120,399	11,836	6,517	13	12
	Beerbhoom	122,566	69,766	34,752	22,802	14	7
	Midnapore	547,135	274,054	41,530	24,347	199	167
	Hooghly	180,206	73,287	40,204	19,278	106	141
	Howrah	117,674	56,071	31,725	18,588	663	390
	Total ...	1,433,872	710,023	220,385	120,913	1,351	924
Presidency	24-Pergunnahs	262,743	126,653	164,496	93,628	4,416	2,978
	Calcutta	54,477	18,454	25,142	8,026	10,183	5,269
	Nuddea	207,847	108,477	301,027	179,067	1,874	1,338
	Jessore	158,575	76,431	240,385	132,307	123	102
	Khulna	133,821	65,571	136,792	76,578	204	126
	Moorshedabad	146,108	78,864	147,936	92,102	120	112
	Total ...	963,571	474,450	1,015,778	581,708	16,920	9,925
Rajshahye	Dinagepore	186,801	116,211	203,611	121,402	119	90
	Rajshahye	69,973	36,737	261,227	171,136	39	25
	Rungpore	211,787	109,549	329,232	186,136	29	6
	Bogra	34,839	17,985	143,797	92,636	5	4
	Pubna	91,464	48,158	252,855	168,218	44	21
	Darjeeling	32,434	21,446	1,992	1,040	363	156
	Julpigoree	102,610	64,086	57,453	36,619	56	18
	Total ...	729,998	414,172	1,250,167	777,187	655	320
Dacca	Dacca	216,591	124,393	337,886	236,087	2,624	1,907
	Furreedpore	164,089	88,609	254,609	153,937	715	524
	Backergunge	155,603	83,116	306,735	196,539	974	707
	Mymensingh	263,698	134,115	552,552	358,596	49	25
	Total ...	799,981	429,633	1,451,782	945,159	4,362	3,163
Chittagong	Chittagong	74,231	42,257	232,145	164,725	384	179
	Noakhölly	55,568	29,337	165,625	113,189	163	106
	Tipperah	133,092	75,653	273,849	189,601	57	46
	Chittagong Hill Tracts						Not
	Total ...	262,891	147,247	671,619	467,515	604	331
Total for Bengal Proper ...		4,190,313	2,175,525	4,609,731	2,892,482	23,892	14,663

with reference to Civil Condition and Religion.

GLE.

Buddhists and Jains.		All Others.		Total.			District.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
GAL.							
.....	.....	1,612	1,350	453,291	305,907	147,384	Burdwan.
.....	.....	23,879	19,078	404,334	258,328	146,006	Bankoorah.
.....	.....	3,895	3,119	256,921	161,227	95,694	Beerbhoom.
13	4	33,141	26,464	947,056	622,018	325,038	Midnapore.
54	20	7	9	313,402	220,667	92,735	Hooghly.
2	3	49	22	225,187	150,113	75,074	Howrah.
69	27	62,583	50,042	2,600,191	1,718,260	881,931	*Total.*
96	37	223	110	655,379	431,073	223,406	24-Pergunnahs.
534	115	516	330	123,046	90,852	32,194	Calcutta.
.....	.....	7	8	799,645	510,755	288,890	Nuddea.
.....	.....	9	8	607,940	399,092	208,848	Jessore.
.....	.....	.....	.....	413,092	270,817	142,275	Khulna.
187	79	253	200	465,961	294,604	171,357	Moorshedabad.
817	231	1,007	656	3,065,063	1,998,093	1,066,970	*Total.*
.....	.....	407	236	628,967	391,028	237,939	Dinagepore.
13	4	.....	.....	539,153	331,251	207,902	Rajshahye.
139	8	371	237	837,494	541,558	295,936	Rungpore.
17	1	1	1	289,286	178,659	110,627	Bogra.
88	15	.....	.....	560,863	344,451	216,412	Pubna.
4,836	3,702	124	83	66,176	39,749	26,427	Darjeeling.
160	123	1,166	890	263,181	161,445	101,736	Julpigoree.
5,252	3,853	2,069	1,447	3,185,120	1,988,141	1,196,979	*Total.*
6	1	46	35	919,576	557,153	362,423	Dacca.
1	.....	3	.....	661,887	419,417	242,470	Furreedpore.
1,394	1,063	30	26	746,187	464,736	281,451	Backergunge.
.....	.....	7,244	5,242	1,321,521	823,543	497,978	Mymensingh.
1,401	1,064	7,323	5,303	3,649,171	2,264,849	1,384,322	*Total.*
15,401	11,256	1	2	540,584	322,165	218,419	Chittagong.
87	12	.....	.....	364,037	221,393	142,644	Noakholly.
83	60	.....	.....	672,441	407,081	265,360	Tipperah.
available.							Chittagong Hill Tracts.
15,521	11,328	4	2	1,577,062	950,639	626,423	*Total.*
23,060	16,503	72,986	57,450	14,076,607	8,919,982	5,156,625	Total for Bengal Proper.

V.—General Statement of the Result of the Census, arranged

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.		HINDUS.		MAHOMEDANS.		CHRISTIANS.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
		15	16	17	18	19	20
BENGAL							
BURDWAN.	Burdwan	258,167	263,965	63,203	65,084	200	185
	Bankoorah	203,179	221,207	9,727	11,448	14	14
	Beerbhoom	154,192	157,718	40,171	42,021	9	14
	Midnapore	509,070	523,669	36,198	41,014	158	164
	Hooghly	188,796	187,691	43,872	50,463	114	102
	Howrah	119,215	111,356	31,884	31,983	455	353
	Total ...	1,433,519	1,465,606	225,055	242,013	950	832
PRESIDENCY.	24-Pergunnahs	302,867	255,614	191,954	170,502	2,768	2,603
	Calcutta	117,199	37,383	62,917	17,821	4,911	3,736
	Nuddea	186,559	193,722	249,180	271,656	1,280	1,375
	Jessore	130,380	136,580	219,292	232,063	99	100
	Khulna	125,219	111,784	146,540	133,106	184	176
	Moorshedabad	142,334	134,996	125,621	136,627	96	94
	Total ...	1,004,558	870,079	995,504	961,775	9,338	8,084
RAJSHAHYE.	Dinagepore	167,257	157,983	191,517	192,825	129	77
	Rajshahye	66,910	59,150	242,365	253,579	28	22
	Rungpore	80,708	169,018	302,386	311,400	32	14
	Bogra	34,530	28,163	147,500	149,238	6	7
	Pubna	75,003	73,991	212,320	220,820	30	15
	Darjeeling	38,185	27,213	2,901	1,582	169	131
	Julpigoree	83,340	78,446	46,852	47,504	49	29
	Total ...	646,533	593,964	1,145,841	1,176,948	443	295
DACCA.	Dacca	174,029	183,033	267,804	289,205	1,499	1,848
	Furreedpore	131,787	142,396	224,243	236,490	635	632
	Backergunge	144,593	130,088	320,178	319,952	822	847
	Mymensingh	214,765	194,796	464,370	485,737	30	36
	Total ...	665,174	650,913	1,276,595	1,331,384	2,986	3,363
CHITTAGONG.	Chittagong	49,073	56,625	137,918	178,813	220	147
	Noakholly	45,063	43,451	134,301	146,282	128	136
	Tipperah	112,419	109,444	230,617	235,921	43	41
	Chittagong Hill Tracts ...						Not
	Total ...	207,455	209,520	502,836	561,016	391	324
TOTAL FOR BENGAL PROPER...		3,957,239	3,790,082	4,145,831	4,273,136	14,108	12,898

with reference to Civil Condition and Religion—continued.

RIED.							
Buddhists and Jains.		All Others.		Total.			DISTRICT.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both sexes.	Males.	Females.	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
—*continued.*							
.....	.....	1,482	1,534	653,820	323,052	330,768	Burdwan.
.....	.....	17,341	18,465	481,395	230,261	251,134	Bankoorah.
.....	.....	3,215	3,340	400,680	197,587	203,093	Beerbhoom.
5	5	23,970	26,368	1,160,521	570,301	590,220	Midnapore.
79	68	23	12	471,220	232,884	238,336	Hooghly.
28	6	164	43	295,487	151,746	143,741	Howrah.
112	79	46,195	49,762	3,463,123	1,705,831	1,757,292	*Total.*
136	69	584	212	927,309	498,309	429,000	24-Pergunnahs.
797	167	517	356	245,804	186,341	59,463	Calcutta.
1	.....	6	4	903,784	437,027	466,757	Nuddea.
.....	.....	4	7	718,525	349,775	368,750	Jessore.
.....	.....	.....	.....	517,009	271,943	245,066	Khulna.
140	130	174	177	540,308	268,374	272,024	Moorshedabad.
1,083	366	1,285	756	3,852,829	2,011,769	1,841,060	*Total.*
.....	.....	425	270	710,483	359,328	351,155	Dinagepore.
18	16	8	1	622,097	309,329	312,768	Rajshahye.
158	14	311	336	964,377	483,595	480,782	Rungpore.
32	6	1	1	359,484	182,069	177,415	Bogra.
96	14	.....	.....	582,889	288,049	294,840	Pubna.
4,982	4,363	232	157	79,915	46,469	33,446	Darjeeling.
109	80	1,089	1,089	258,587	131,439	127,148	Julpigoree.
5,395	4,493	2,066	1,854	3,577,832	1,800,278	1,777,554	*Total.*
38	3	26	24	917,509	443,396	474,113	Dacca.
10	.....	1	1	736,195	356,676	379,519	Furreedpore.
1,078	1,010	12	12	919,192	466,683	452,509	Backergunge.
.....	.....	5,759	6,168	1,371,661	684,924	686,737	Mymensingh.
1,126	1,013	5,798	6,205	3,944,557	1,951,679	1,992,878	*Total.*
8,341	11,667	4	2	443,710	196,4[illegible]	247,254	Chittagong.
28	20	2	.....	369,411	179,522	189,889	Noakholly.
111	78	.....	.....	688,674	343,190	345,484	Tipperah.
available.							Chittagong Hill Tracts.
8,480	11,765	6	2	1,501,795	719,168	782,627	*Total.*
16,196	17,716	55,350	58,579	16,340,136	8,188,725	8,151,411	Total for Bengal Proper.

V.—General Statement of the Result of the Census, arranged

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	WIDOWERS					
	HINDUS.		MAHOMEDANS.		CHRISTIANS.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	28	29	30	31	32	33
BENGAL						
BURDWAN.						
Burdwan	34,492	203,015	4,764	41,046	8	44
Bankoorah	17,337	126,123	628	6,118	.....	3
Beerbhoom	19,873	93,195	2,705	20,170	.....	4
Midnapore	49,032	331,675	2,067	18,847	11	41
Hooghly	31,986	161,006	6,384	31,597	17	85
Howrah	12,800	83,754	1,747	16,191	66	124
Total ...	165,520	999,668	15,295	133,969	102	301
PRESIDENCY.						
24-Pergunnahs	33,131	172,032	11,759	68,967	223	98
Calcutta	8,408	42,341	2,608	7,016	533	1,798
Nuddea	23,182	144,080	14,197	131,476	83	490
Jessore	18,772	110,701	12,161	109,080	5	45
Khulna	16,076	71,186	9,551	52,977	15	42
Moorshedabad	17,111	115,383	6,335	81,336	9	39
Total ...	116,680	657,129	56,611	451,761	868	3,402
RAJSHAHYE.						
Dinagepore	17,274	71,014	14,621	71,848	14	28
Rajshahye	8,323	47,656	11,320	110,073	3	
Rungpore...	21,749	123,721	20,765	129,686	.....	5
Bogra	4,800	20,534	7,138	53,102	2	3
Pubna	8,889	63,374	6,914	88,781	3	1
Darjeeling	2,213	5,226	214	475	7	16
Julpigoree	8,422	30,987	4,182	15,903	4	3
Total ...	71,679	362,512	65,154	469,868	33	60
DACCA.						
Dacca	22,130	136,504	11,088	108,617	93	828
Furreedpore	18,614	109,097	11,247	94,457	33	202
Backergunge	20,024	90,573	21,884	102,406	40	327
Mymensingh	26,007	153,974	18,575	158,675	3	8
Total ...	86,775	490,148	62,794	464,155	169	1,365
CHITTAGONG.						
Chittagong	5,7[illegible]	46,365	6,707	81,678	19	106
Noakholly	7,092	30,965	7,225	41,970	11	
Tipperah	11,537	68,880	9,074	68,678	3	9
Chittagong Hill Tracts						Not
Total ...	24,355	146,210	23,006	192,326	33	159
TOTAL FOR BENGAL PROPER ...	465,009	2,655,667	222,860	1,712,079	1,205	5,287

with reference to Civil Condition and Religion—continued.

AND WIDOWS.							
Buddhists and Jains.		All Others.		Total.			District.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	
—*concluded.*							
.....	.....	72	371	284,712	39,336	245,376	Burdwan.
.....	.....	582	5,232	156,023	18,547	137,476	Bankoorah.
.....	.....	171	709	136,827	22,749	114,078	Beerbhoom.
.....	7	845	7,700	410,225	51,955	358,270	Midnapore.
12	57	2	.....	228,146	35,401	192,745	Hooghly.
.....	1	7	17	114,707	14,620	100,087	Howrah.
12	65	1,679	14,029	1,330,640	182,608	1,148,032	*Total.*
8	11	27	25	287,171	45,148	242,023	24-Pergunnahs.
46	62	29	128	64,369	11,624	52,745	Calcutta.
.....	.....	1	3	314,418	37,463	276,955	Nuddea.
.....	.....	.....	11	250,784	30,938	219,846	Jessore.
.....	.....	.....	.....	149,847	25,642	124,205	Khulna.
27	104	23	64	220,431	23,505	196,926	Moorshedabad.
81	177	80	231	1,287,020	174,320	1,112,700	*Total.*
.....	.....	7	70	174,896	31,936	142,960	Dinagepore.
.....	9	.....	.....	177,388	19,646	157,742	Rajshahye.
	8	27	125	296,093	42,548	253,545	Rungpore.
.....	.....	.....	.....	85,588	11,949	73,639	Bogra.
	9	.....	.....	167,976	15,811	152,165	Pubna.
77	615	19	26	9,083	2,730	6,358	Darjeeling.
13	7	50	223	59,794	12,671	47,123	Julpigoree.
302	648	103	444	970,823	137,291	833,532	*Total.*
.....	1	3	1	279,265	33,314	245,951	Dacca.
2	.....	.....	.....	233,652	29,896	203,756	Furreedpore
110	142	2	2	235,510	42,060	193,450	Backergunge.
.....	.....	345	1,197	358,784	44,930	313,854	Mymensingh.
112	143	350	1,200	1,107,211	150,200	957,011	*Total.*
576	6,869	.....	1	148,047	13,028	135,019	Chittagong.
5	12	.....	.....	87,324	14,333	72,991	Noakholly.
8	34	.....	.....	158,223	20,622	137,601	Tipperah.
available.							Chittagong Hill Tracts.
589	6,915	.....	1	393,594	47,983	345,611	*Total.*
1,096	7,948	2,212	15,905	5,089,288	692,402	4,396,886	Total for Bengal Proper

T

V.—General Statement of the Result of the Census, arranged

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	Hindus.		Mahomedans.		Christians.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SIN						
BE						
PATNA.						
Patna	293,312	205,134	44,137	33,896	1,422	522
Gya	365,986	268,820	44,589	34,521	19	19
Shahabad	371,086	268,010	29,519	23,307	73	69
Mozufferpore	398,106	281,616	61,035	46,894	126	82
Durbhunga	334,061	225,699	59,011	43,105	106	55
Sarun	440,709	336,418	58,057	46,485	91	57
Chumparun	315,030	229,868	51,329	37,857	478	428
Total ...	2,518,380	1,816,165	347,677	265,565	2,315	1,232
BHAGULPORE.						
Monghyr...	319,343	226,705	38,008	28,806	342	234
Bhagulpore	284,175	188,650	36,372	24,587	166	140
Purneah	233,024	142,011	203,460	123,277	98	79
Maldah	92,046	57,069	79,271	53,691	6	7
Sonthal Pergunnahs	184,272	138,738	23,215	17,441	865	789
Total ...	1,112,860	753,173	380,326	247,802	1,477	1,249
TOTAL FOR BEHAR ...	3,631,240	2,569,338	728,003	513,367	3,792	2,481
ORIS						
ORISSA.						
Cuttack	421,469	294,370	12,559	8,775	634	709
Pooree	215,816	150,099	3,688	2,732	216	259
Balasore	223,647	147,761	6,104	4,020	276	174
Angul	24,103	19,466	70	45	2	.....
Banki	12,343	9,256	69	35	.....	.....
TOTAL FOR ORISSA ...	897,378	620,952	22,490	15,607	1,128	1,142
CHOTA						
CHOTA NAGPORE.						
Hazaribagh	195,052	145,383	21,303	15,875	160	161
Lohardugga	204,101	159,722	17,231	13,480	10,241	8,731
Singbhoom	131,178	111,650	561	370	843	733
Manbhoom	226,891	161,086	10,097	7,170	152	121
TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE ...	757,222	577,841	49,192	36,895	11,405	9,746
Grand Total for the Province.	9,476,153	5,943,656	5,409,416	3,458,351	40,217	28,032
FEUDATORY						
Cooch Behar	115,811	62,979	48,045	26,739	15	8
Hill Tipperah						Not
Tributary States, Orissa	2,68,561	201,571	1,422	944	135	10
Ditto, Chota Nagpore ...	165,479	131,102	1,032	714	6	8
TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES	549,851	395,742	50,499	28,397	156	122
Grand Total, including Feudatory States	10,026,004	6,339,398	5,459,915	3,486,748	40,373	28,154

with reference to Civil Condition and Religion—continued.

GLE.							
Buddhists and Jains.		All Others.		Total.			District.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
HAR.							
6	2	9	11	578,451	338,886	239,565	Patna.
.....	.....	.....	.....	713,954	410,594	303,360	Gya.
.....	.....	1	3	692,668	400,679	291,989	Shahabad.
.....	.....	.....	.....	787,359	459,267	328,092	Mozufferpore.
.....	.....	43	36	662,116	393,221	268,895	Durbhunga.
.....	.....	.....	.....	881,907	498,947	382,960	Sarun.
.....	.....	.....	.....	634,990	366,837	268,153	Chumparun.
6	2	53	50	4,951,445	2,868,431	2,083,014	*Total.*
.....	.....	2,011	1,764	617,213	359,704	257,509	Monghyr.
.....	.....	4,243	3,682	542,015	324,956	217,059	Bhagulpore.
.....	.....	234	169	702,352	436,816	265,536	Purneah.
.....	.....	467	402	282,959	171,790	111,169	Maldah.
32	34	171,270	148,221	684,877	379,654	305,223	Sonthal Pergunnahs.
32	34	178,225	154,238	2,829,416	1,672,920	1,156,496	*Total.*
38	36	178,278	154,288	7,780,861	4,541,351	3,239,510	Total for Behar
SA.							
.....	.....	268	202	738,986	434,930	304,056	Cuttack.
.....	.....	.....	.....	372,810	219,720	153,090	Pooree.
3	.....	1,344	1,188	384,517	231,374	153,143	Balasore.
.....	.....	327	295	44,308	24,502	19,806	Angul.
.....	.....	.....	.....	21,703	12,412	9,291	Banki.
3	.....	1,939	1,685	1,562,324	922,938	639,386	Total for Orissa.
NAGPORE.							
.....	.....	19,219	16,453	413,615	235,743	177,872	Hazaribagh.
9	11	163,226	138,864	715,616	394,808	320,808	Lohardugga.
.....	.....	174	134	245,643	132,756	112,887	Singbhoom.
4	6	18,409	14,899	438,835	255,553	183,282	Manbhoom.
13	17	201,028	170,350	1,813,709	1,018,860	794,849	Total for Chota Nagpore.
23,114	16,558	454,231	383,773	25,233,501	15,403,131	9,830,370	Grand Total for the Province.
STATES.							
76	.....	126	89	253,882	164,067	89,815	Cooch Behar.
available.							Hill Tipperah.
118	73	101,910	83,813	658,653	372,146	286,507	Tributary States, Orissa.
.....	.....	154	128	298,713	166,671	132,042	Ditto, Chota Nagpore.
188	73	102,190	84,030	1,211,248	702,884	508,364	Total for Feudatory States.
23,302	16,631	556,421	467,803	26,444,749	16,106,015	10,338,734	Grand Total, including Feudatory States.

V.—General Statement of the Result of the Census, ar ·anged

MAR

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	HINDUS.		MAHOMEDANS.		CHR ISTIANS.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Male s.	Females.
	15	16	17	18	19	20
BEHAR						
PATNA. Patna ...	422,970	423,985	48,639	55,674	266	254
Gya ...	519,025	524,066	56,932	66,225	34	14
Shahabad ...	472,840	492,587	35,538	41,105	65	57
Mozufferpore ...	666,213	674,729	84,165	88,859	81	63
Durbhunga ...	752,686	746,283	85,136	85,83 7	72	65
Sarun ...	474,969	527,127	62,453	72,7 26	56	61
Chumparun ...	304,445	384,759	64,441	[illegible] 3,717	361	459
Total ...	3,704,048	37,74,136	437,354	4[illegible]74,143	93[illegible]	1,003
BHAGULPORE. Monghyr ...	521,511	523,372	47,320	51,241	224	200
Bhagulpore ...	546,805	537,069	52,146	50,601	209	104
Purneah ...	279,553	265,824	175,422	175,859	59	64
Maldah ...	87,555	79,716	73,984	76,302	7	6
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	226,817	218,432	29,622	28,804	647	612
Total ...	1,664,241	1,624,413	37[illegible]8,464	382,807	1,046	986
TOTAL FOR BEHAR ...	5,368,289	5,398,549	8[illegible]15,818	856,950	1,981	1,989
ORISSA						
ORISSA. Cuttack ...	379,038	389,589	9,276	10,324	406	418
Pooree ...	207,706	201,376	3,135	2,986	146	154
Balasore ...	208,607	215,014	5,431	5,263	187	125
Angul ...	25,775	24,211	80	54	3	1
Banki ...	15,021	14,527	72	66	7	4
TOTAL FOR ORISSA ...	836,147	844,717	17,99[illegible]	3	749	702
CHOTA						
CHOTA NAGPORE. Hazaribagh ...	245,564	252,319	30,		112	82
Lohardugga ...	215,323	216,754	2[illegible]		34	7,630
Singbhoom ...	87,876	89,251				638
Manbhoom ...	227,585	234,496	12,5[illegible]			124
TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE ...	776,348	792,820	63,575	62,2[illegible]		474
Grand Total for the Province.	10,938,023	10,826,168	5,043,218	5,211,001	25,368	[illegible]063
FEUDATORY						
Cooch Behar ...	92,928	90,244	39,479	40,946	17	6
Hill Tipperah ...						Not
Tributary States, Orissa ...	271,720	257,236	1,570	1,268	88	90
Ditto, Chota Nagpore ...	133,784	134,988	1,156	1,089	10	10
TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES	498,432	482,468	42,205	43,303	115	106
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.	11,436,455	11,308,636	5,085,423	5,254,304	25,483	24,169

with reference to Civil Condition and Religion—continued.

RIED.							DISTRICT.
BUDDHISTS AND JAINS.		ALL OTHERS.		TOTAL.			
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
—*continued.*							
5	5	13	8	951,849	471,893	479,956	Patna.
.....	.....	2	2	1,167,850	576,943	590,907	Gya.
.....	.....	10	6	1,042,208	508,453	533,755	Shahabad.
.....	.....	37	32	1,514,110	750,459	763,651	Mozufferpore.
.....	.....	.....	.....	1,670,148	837,931	832,217	Durbhunga.
.....	.....	.....	.....	1,137,392	537,478	599,914	Sarun.
.....	.....	.....	.....	908,182	459,247	448,935	Chumparun.
5	5	62	48	8,391,739	4,142,404	4,249,335	*Total.*
.....	.....	1,493	1,561	1,146,922	570,548	576,374	Monghyr.
.....	.....	3,553	3,481	1,195,868	604,613	591,255	Bhagulpore.
.....	.....	92	115	896,988	455,126	441,862	Purneah.
.....	.....	378	359	818,277	161,894	156,383	Maldah.
29	35	129,285	129,182	763,465	386,400	377,065	Sonthal Pergunnahs.
29	35	134,801	134,698	4,321,520	2,178,581	2,142,939	*Total.*
34	40	134,863	134,746	12,713,259	6,320,985	6,392,274	TOTAL FOR BEHAR.
—*continued.*							
2	1	197	39	789,451	388,919	400,532	Cuttack.
.....	.....	1	.....	415,504	210,988	204,516	Pooree.
1	.....	996	1,036	436,660	215,222	221,438	Balasore.
.....	.....	297	253	50,674	26,155	24,519	Angul.
.....	.....	.....	.....	29,697	15,190	14,507	Banki.
3	1	1,491	1,328	1,721,986	856,384	865,602	TOTAL FOR ORISSA.
NAGPORE—*continued.*							
.....	.....	16,259	16,666	591,076	292,050	299,026	Hazaribagh.
15	15	136,884	141,797	766,349	380,117	386,232	Lohardugga.
.....	.....	139	148	179,853	89,296	90,557	Singbhoom.
7	5	13,960	14,245	514,831	254,254	260,577	Manbhoom.
22	20	167,242	172,856	2,052,109	1,015,717	1,036,392	TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE.
16,255	17,777	358,947	366,670	32,827,490	16,381,811	16,445,679	Grand Total for the Province.
STATES—*continued.*							
71	.....	86	82	263,859	132,581	131,278	Cooch Behar.
available.							Hill Tipperah.
155	136	77,540	76,430	686,233	351,073	335,160	Tributary States Orissa.
.....	.....	121	119	271,277	135,071	136,206	Ditto, Chota Nagpore.
226	136	77,747	76,631	1,221,369	618,725	602,644	TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES.
16,481	17,913	436,694	443,301	34,048,859	17,000,536	17,048,323	Grand Total, including Feudatory States.

V.—General Statement of the Result of the Census, arranged

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	WIDOWERS AND					
	HINDUS.		MAHOMEDANS.		CHRISTIANS.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	28	29	30	31	32	33
BEHAR						
PATNA. Patna	43,553	152,107	4,425	26,370	25	69
Gya	51,364	160,723	4,537	26,344	3	7
Shahabad	38,619	174,139	2,495	14,768	4	8
Mozufferpore	49,900	194,816	6,100	29,755	5	15
Durbhunga	58,748	206,502	5,879	30,017	7	20
Sarun	42,112	189,533	5,025	24,396	3	14
Chumparun	33,741	114,142	5,788	19,555	14	196
Total ...	323,037	1,191,962	34,249	171,105	61	329
BHAGULPORE. Monghyr	35,855	147,227	2,934	19,208	23	68
Bhagulpore	45,680	159,925	3,666	18,161	15	44
Purneah	32,253	123,874	12,847	80,265	5	22
Maldah	9,263	53,504	3,988	42,319	.....	.....
Sonthal Pergunnahs	12,568	66,763	1,141	8,676	32	112
Total ...	135,619	551,293	24,576	168,629	75	246
TOTAL FOR BEHAR ...	458,656	1,743,255	58,825	339,734	136	575
ORISSA						
ORISSA. Cuttack	24,026	178,216	445	5,880	24	140
Pooree	15,691	82,976	194	1,268	10	28
Balasore	14,576	106,187	263	2,723	7	46
Angul	1,131	5,680	5	21	.....	.....
Banki	932	4,540	4	24	.....	.....
TOTAL FOR ORISSA ...	57,256	377,599	911	9,916	47	214
CHOTA						
CHOTA NAGPORE. Hazaribagh	14,789	71,704	1,439	7,406	7	21
Lohardugga	14,181	58,761	1,175	5,250	300	1,715
Singbhoom	4,560	23,295	25	200	34	112
Manbhoom	14,213	81,976	604	3,299	5	24
TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE ...	47,743	235,736	3,243	16,155	346	1,872
Grand Total for the Province.	1,028,664	5,012,257	85,839	2,077,884	1,734	7,948
FEUDATORY						
Cooch Behar	11,933	53,583	3,085	16,245	2	.....
Hill Tipperah	Not available.					
Tributary States, Orissa	15,361	84,768	65	460	6	33
Ditto, Chota Nagpore ...	7,610	30,814	62	321	.....	.....
TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES	34,904	169,165	3,212	17,026	8	33
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.	1,063,568	5,181,422	289,051	2,094,910	1,742	7,981

with reference to Civil Condition and Religion—concluded.

WIDOWS.							
Buddhists and Jains.		All Others.		Total.			District.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	
—*concluded.*							
.....	4	1	2	226,556	48,004	178,552	Patna.
.....	.....	.....	.....	242,878	55,904	186,974	Gya.
.....	.....	.....	.....	230,033	41,118	188,915	Shahabad.
.....	.....	.....	.....	280,591	56,005	224,586	Mozufferpore.
.....	.....	2	8	301,183	64,636	236,547	Durbhunga.
.....	.....	...	.....	261,083	47,140	213,943	Sarun.
.....	.....	.....	.....	178,436	44,543	133,893	Chumparun.
.....	4	3	10	1,720,760	357,350	1,363,410	*Total.*
.....	.....	60	264	205,639	38,872	166,767	Monghyr.
.....	.....	189	595	228,275	49,550	178,725	Bhagulpore.
.....	.....	33	48	249,347	45,138	204,209	Purneah.
.....	.....	63	75	109,212	13,314	95,898	Maldah.
1	3	5,534	24,921	119,751	19,276	100,475	Sonthal Pergunnahs.
1	3	5,879	25,903	912,224	166,150	746,074	*Total.*
1	7	5,882	25,913	2,632,984	523,500	2,109,484	Total for Behar.
—*concluded.*							
.....	.....	10	87	209,728	25,405	184,323	Cuttack.
.....	.....	.....	.....	100,173	15,901	84,272	Pooree.
.....	.....	19	282	124,103	14,865	109,238	Balasore.
.....	.....	26	58	6,921	1,162	5,759	Angul.
.....	.....	...	.....	5,500	936	4,564	Banki.
.....	.....	55	427	446,425	58,269	388,156	Total for Orissa.
NAGPORE—*concluded.*							
.....	.....	875	3,810	100,051	17,110	82,941	Hazaribagh.
.....	7	6,076	39,814	127,279	21,732	105,547	Lohardugga.
.....	.....	10	43	28,279	4,629	23,650	Singbhoom.
.....	1	699	3,741	104,562	15,521	89,041	Manbhoom.
.....	8	7,660	47,408	360,171	58,992	301,179	Total for Chota Nagpore.
1,097	7,963	15,829	89,653	8,528,868	1,333,163	7,195,705	Grand Total for the Province.
STATES—*concluded.*							
13	.....	7	25	84,883	15,030	69,853	Cooch Behar.
Not available.							Hill Tipperah.
13	45	3,902	19,603	124,256	19,347	104,909	Tributary States, Orissa.
.....	.....	5	27	38,839	7,677	31,162	Ditto, Chota Nagpore.
26	45	3,914	19,655	247,978	42,054	205,924	Total for Feudatory States.
1,123	8,008	19,743	109,308	8,776,846	1,375,217	7,401,629	Grand Total, including Feudatory States.

VI.—Statement showing the Distribution of the Population according ot

Division.	ALL RELIGIONS.							
	Males.				Females.			
	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.
		Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.			Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bengal.								
Burdwan	214,833	405,642	2,986,224	3,606,699	3,542	6,118	3,777,595	3,787,255
Presidency	169,009	395,933	3,619,240	4,184,182	9,291	17,939	3,993,500	4,020,730
Rajshahye and Cooch Behar	98,630	201,831	3,625,249	3,925,710	3,825	6,266	3,797,974	3,808,065
Dacca	137,890	262,214	3,966,624	4,366,728	4,268	5,640	4,324,303	4,334,211
Chittagong	88,545	140,183	1,489,062	1,774,336	3,196	3,638	1,747,827	1,799,712
Total for Bengal Proper...	708,907	1,405,803	15,686,399	17,857,655	24,122	39,601	17,641,199	17,749,973
Behar.								
Patna	119,876	269,415	6,978,894	7,368,185	5,931	13,16[illegible]	7,676,665	7,695,759
Bhagulpore	60,421	117,122	3,840,108	4,017,651	1,837	3,502	4,040,170	4,045,509
Total for Behar ...	180,297	386,537	10,819,002	11,385,836	7,768	16,665	11,716,835	11,741,268
Orissa	74,976	110,455	1,652,160	1,837,591	2,154	2,649	1,888,341	1,893,144
Chota Nagpore ...	28,379	52,322	2,012,868	2,093,569	1,139	1,652	2,129,629	2,132,420
Grand Total for the Province.	992,559	1,955,117	30,170,429	33,174,651	35,183	60,567	33,376,004	33,516,805
Feudatory States ...	17,440	36,466	1,309,757	1,450,940	577	882	1,315,473	1,394,465
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.	1,009,999	1,99,5183	31,480,186	34,625,591	35,760	61,449	34,691,477	34,911,270

VI.—Statement showing the Distribution of the Population according to

Division.	MAHOMEDANS.							
	Males.				Females.			
	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.
		Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.			Can read and write	Cannot read and write.	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Bengal.								
Burdwan	17,595	33,848	409,292	460,735	329	489	496,077	496,895
Presidency	41,879	94,344	1,931,670	2,067,893	898	1,262	1,993,064	1,995,244
Rajshahye and Cooch Behar	54,150	95,155	2,311,857	2,461,162	2,384	3,613	2,418,006	2,424,003
Dacca	44,827	71,075	2,675,269	2,791,171	946	1,289	2,738,463	2,740,698
Chittagong ...	53,953	65,113	1,078,395	1,203,687	2,162	2,331	1,216,364	1,221,923
Total for Bengal Proper...	212,404	359,535	8,406,483	8,984,648	6,719	9,004	8,861,974	8,878,763
Behar.								
Patna	12,640	24,082	782,558	819,280	668	1,447	908,698	910,813
Bhagulpore	13,522	22,842	747,002	783,366	505	917	797,816	799,238
Total for Behar ...	26,162	46,924	1,529,560	1,602,646	1,173	2,364	1,706,514	1,710,051
Orissa	1,577	2,680	37,138	41,395	118	180	43,918	44,216
Chota Nagpore ...	1,583	3,311	111,116	116,010	96	139	115,037	115,272
Grand Total for the Province.	241,726	412,450	10,084,297	10,744,699	8,106	11,687	10,727,443	10,748,302
Feudatory States ...	2,432	3,216	90,268	111,072	135	60	88,531	100,651
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.	244,158	415,666	10,174,565	10,855,771	8,241	11,747	10,815,974	10,848,953

Education and Religion in each Division in Bengal.

HINDUS.							
MALES.				FEMALES.			
Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.
	Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.			Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
196,355	370,051	2,466,505	3,032,911	2,889	4,793	3,167,615	3,175,297
122,450	287,167	1,675,192	2,084,809	5,090	9,470	1,987,098	2,001,658
44,075	105,054	1,299,081	1,448,210	1,279	2,345	1,367,024	1,370,648
92,425	189,763	1,269,742	1,551,930	2,984	4,125	1,563,585	1,570,694
33,091	71,589	390,021	506,162	916	1,094	500,967	511,801
488,396	1,023,624	7,100,541	8,624,022	13,158	21,827	8,586,289	8,630,098
106,775	243,529	6,195,161	6,545,465	4,806	11,062	6,766,395	6,782,263
45,744	92,738	2,774,238	2,912,720	874	1,839	2,926,166	2,928,879
152,519	336,267	8,969,399	9,458,185	5,680	12,901	9,692,561	9,711,142
73,039	107,075	1,610,667	1,790,781	1,625	1,989	1,839,654	1,843,268
24,720	46,515	1,510,078	1,581,313	518	1,061	1,604,818	1,606,397
738,674	1,513,481	19,190,685	21,454,301	20,981	37,778	21,723,322	21,790,905
14,593	32,659	1,035,935	1,124,243	314	682	1,046,379	1,083,357
753,267	1,546,140	20,226,620	22,578,544	21,295	38,460	22,769,701	22,874,262

Education and Religion in each Division in Bengal—continued.

CHRISTIANS.							
MALES.				FEMALES.			
Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.
	Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.			Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.	
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
403	1,206	794	2,403	291	809	957	2,057
4,309	12,897	9,920	27,126	3,178	6,949	11,284	21,411
139	546	446	1,131	102	223	350	675
372	608	6,537	7,517	175	210	7,506	7,891
99	346	583	1,054	35	83	696	837
5,322	15,603	18,280	39,231	3,781	8,274	20,793	32,871
455	1,795	1,061	3,311	457	652	1,455	2,564
294	757	1,547	2,598	235	511	1,735	2,481
749	2,552	2,608	5,909	692	1,163	3,190	5,045
352	683	889	1,924	411	479	1,168	2,058
1,034	1,241	18,006	20,281	378	338	19,376	20,092
7,457	20,079	39,783	67,345	5,262	10,254	44,527	60,066
41	70	168	370	33	68	160	354
7,498	20,149	39,951	67,715	5,295	10,322	44,687	60,420

VI.—Statement showing the Distribution of the Population according

Division.	BUDDHISTS AND JAINS.							
	Males.				Females.			
	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.
		Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.			Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.	
35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
Bengal.								
Burdwan	14	49	130	193	.....	.....	178	178
Presidency	125	978	878	1,981	17	45	712	774
Rajshahye and Cooch Behar.	196	919	9,834	10,949	6	26	8,962	8,994
Dacca	88	698	1,853	2,639	.....	3	2,217	2,220
Chittagong	1,401	3,132	20,057	63,423	83	129	29,796	65,145
Total for Bengal Proper...	1,824	5,776	32,752	79,185	106	204	41,859	77,306
Behar.								
Patna	.....	.....	11	11	.....	.....	11	11
Bhagulpore	.....	.....	62	62	.....	.....	72	72
Total for Behar ...	.....	.....	73	73	.....	.....	83	83
Orissa	.....	3	3	6	.....	.....	1	1
Chota Nagpore	.....	2	33	35	.....	.....	45	45
Grand Total for the Province.	1,824	5,781	32,861	79,299	106	204	41,988	77,435
Feudatory States... ...	10	107	313	430	.....	.....	254	254
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.	1,834	5,888	33,174	79,729	106	204	42,242	77,689

Note.—For the whole of the Chittagong Hill Tracts and Hill Tipperah, and for part of the Tributary States, Chota Nagpore, the particulars required of the details in the

to Education and Religion in each Division in Bengal—concluded.

ALL OTHERS.							
MALES.				FEMALES.			
Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.		Total.
	Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.			Can read and write.	Cannot read and write.	
44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
466	488	109,503	110,457	33	26	112,774	112,833
246	547	1,580	2,373	108	193	1,342	1,643
70	157	4,031	4,258	54	59	3,632	3,745
178	70	13,223	13,471	163	13	12,532	12,708
1	3	6	10	.....	1	4	6
961	1,265	128,343	130,559	358	292	130,284	130,935
6	9	103	118	.....	2	106	108
861	785	317,259	318,905	223	235	314,381	314,839
867	794	317,362	319,023	223	237	314,487	314,947
8	14	3,463	3,485	.....	1	3,600	3,601
1,042	1,753	373,635	375,930	147	114	390,353	390,614
2,878	3,316	822,803	829,007	728	644	838,824	840,097
364	414	183,073	214,825	95	72	180,149	209,849
3,242	3,730	1,005,880	1,043,832	823	716	1,018,973	1,049,946

for this table are not available; the totals, therefore, of the divisions and provinces in which these districts are included do not agree with the sum preceding columns.

VII.—General Statement showing the Occupations of

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	AGRICULTURAL CLASS.		PROFESSIONAL CLASS.		DOMESTIC CLASS.		COMMERCIAL CLASS.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
BENGAL.								
BURDWAN DIVISION.								
Burdwan	255,756	36,276	22,894	2,437	24,035	9,300	18,003	2,944
Bankoora	176,438	33,479	11,983	954	7,652	5,471	9,874	3,662
Beerbhoom	146,308	13,570	11,089	990	8,351	3,676	7,046	1,176
Midnapore	509,640	40,593	24,476	1,703	15,367	11,824	28,679	5,113
Hooghly	173,994	16,286	18,849	1,759	10,990	7,044	15,593	2,772
Howrah	108,640	3,224	9,265	700	11,101	3,396	17,213	1344
Total ...	1,370,776	143,428	98,556	8,543	77,496	40,711	96,408	17,011
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.								
Calcutta	9,935	523	11,102	633	41,440	16,528	77,412	1,353
24-Pergunnahs ...	314,566	22,518	23,859	1,392	35,188	9,611	52,185	[illegible]
Nuddea	371,162	23,624	19,244	1,349	14,616	9,074	33,121	2,324
Jessore	353,012	17,239	12,175	1,313	11,497	2,658	24,567	952
Khulna	253,622	10,722	10,786	1,039	7,068	1,833	31,666	492
Moorshedabad ...	201,090	21,954	14,662	613	14,329	10,413	21,869	1,960
Total ...	1,503,387	96,580	91,828	6,339	124,138	50,117	240,820	9,388
RAJSHAHYE AND COOCH BEHAR DIVISION.								
Dinagepore	393,589	34,815	10,571	1,218	29,776	6,451	17,022	3,418
Rajshahye	299,797	18,325	10,379	1,162	14,635	3,866	27,055	1,501
Rungpore	538,168	25,264	12,829	995	22,922	2,990	29,491	4,654
Bogra	186,118	5,547	6,295	269	3,583	809	6,412	291
Pubna	284,467	10,143	10,891	352	15,677	4,017	31,395	1,693
Darjeeling	22,782	7,141	1,155	17	8,992	3,547	2,591	518
Julpigoree	146,574	23,667	4,811	267	9,559	3,038	14,260	3,834
Total ...	1,871,495	124,902	56,931	4,280	105,144	24,718	128,226	15,909
DACCA DIVISION.								
Dacca	412,269	17,247	23,391	1,126	29,777	5,129	53,532	3,816
Furreedpore	374,9[illegible]	[illegible]	15,784	687	9,827	2,350	26,776	786
Backergunge	[illegible]	8,580	[illegible]	532	9,864	1,725	43,863	939
Mymensingh	437,441	10,640	20,497	895	36,481	4,546	54,162	4,861
Total ...	780,502	35,473	20,915	3,234	85,949	13,750	178,353	10,402
	2,005,198	71,940	80,587					
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.								
Chittagong	142,367	14,322	10,905	990	7,522	2,354	18,006	1,144
Noakholly	139,735	5,283	11,120	267	8,762	342	11,419	371
Tipperah	345,554	20,538	18,742	613	13,971	1,838	24,906	818
Chittagong Hill Tracts ...								Not
Total ...	627,656	40,143	40,767	1,870	80,255	4,534	54,331	2,333
Total for Bengal Proper ...	7,378,512	476,993	368,669	24,266	422,982	133,830	698,118	55,048
BEHAR.								
PATNA DIVISION.								
Patna	233,950	63,750	16,804	4,946	49,408	16,360	35,585	13,731
Gya	283,197	89,595	17,481	4,173	52,642	10,203	31,546	8,581
Shahabad	307,604	112,484	12,155	4,021	36,073	6,833	35,728	17,205
Durbhunga	507,425	67,362	6,934	1,224	42,698	3,867	32,843	8,824
Mozufferpore	456,404	107,287	10,635	2,411	42,447	4,632	32,151	8,437
Sarun	479,076	165,309	14,915	2,801	27,432	8,682	26,640	10,526
Chumparun	346,453	105,185	10,671	849	20,888	3,847	21,474	4,896
Total ...	2,614 109	710,972	89,595	20,425	271,588	54,424	215,967	72,200

the Population in each district in Bengal.

Manufacturing Industrial Class.		Indefinite and Non-Productive Class.		Total Non-Agricultural Class.		Grand Total.		Division and District.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
								BENGAL.
								Burdwan Division.
62,429	84,667	285,178	587,904	412,539	687,252	668,295	723,528	Burdwan.
40,132	49,567	261,057	441,483	330,698	501,137	507,136	534,616	Bankoora.
29,844	53,024	178,925	340,429	235,255	399,295	381,563	412,865	Beerbhoom.
83,686	76,381	582,426	1,137,914	734,634	1,232,935	1,244,274	1,273,528	Midnapore.
54,792	49,810	214,734	446,145	314,958	507,530	488,952	523,816	Hooghly.
40,296	31,118	129,964	279,120	207,839	315,678	316,479	318,902	Howrah.
311,179	344,567	1,652,284	3,232,995	2,235,923	3,643,827	3,606,699	3,787,255	Total.
								Presidency Division.
51,172	6,920	97,756	118,445	278,882	143,879	288,817	144,402	Calcutta.
[illegible]	45,461	429,367	813,140	660,864	871,911	975,430	894,429	24-Pergunnahs.
103,699	63,610	443,403	932,621	614,083	1,008,978	985,245	1,032,602	Nuddea.
88,653	18,522	289,901	756,760	426,793	780,205	779,805	797,444	Jessore.
63,204	13,034	202,056	484,426	314,780	500,824	568,402	511,546	Khulna.
61,046	74,010	273,487	531,357	385,393	618,453	586,483	640,307	Moorshedabad.
488,039	221,557	1,735,970	3,636,749	2,680,795	3,924,150	4,184,182	4,020,730	Total.
								Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division.
41,359	61,283	289,975	624,869	388,703	697,239	782,292	732,054	Dinagepore.
42,687	27,437	265,673	626,121	360,429	660,087	660,226	678,412	Rajshahye.
43,758	34,766	420,533	961,594	529,533	1,004,999	1,067,701	1,030,263	Rungpore.
22,512	9,724	147,757	345,041	186,559	356,134	372,677	361,681	Bogra.
56,505	24,808	249,376	622,404	363,844	653,274	648,311	663,417	Pubna.
5,568	2,669	47,860	52,339	66,166	59,090	88,984	66,231	Darjeeling.
14,161	19,804	116,190	225,397	158,981	252,340	305,555	276,007	Julpigoree.
226,550	180,491	1,537,364	3,457,765	2,054,215	3,683,163	3,925,710	3,808,065	Total.
								Dacca Division.
81,646	42,015	433,248	1,013,160	621,594	1,065,240	1,033,863	1,082,487	Dacca.
53,987	14,947	324,629	798,395	431,003	817,165	805,989	825,745	Furreedpore.
69,610	30,115	392,204	883,459	536,038	916,770	973,479	927,410	Backergunge.
111,682	46,865	549,655	1,405,929	772,895	1,463,096	1,553,397	1,498,569	Mymensingh.
316,925	133,942	1,699,736	4,100,943	2,361,530	4,262,271	4,366,728	4,334,211	Total.
								Chittagong Division.
34,014	57,220	318,835	524,662	389,282	586,370	531,649	600,692	Chittagong.
33,251	9,950	210,961	389,311	275,513	400,241	415,248	405,524	Noakholly.
54,362	15,730	313,358	708,908	425,339	727,907	770,893	748,445	Tipperah.
available.						56,546	45,051	Chittagong Hill Tracts.
121,627	82,900	843,154	1,622,881	1,146,680	1,759,569	1,774,336	1,799,712	Total.
1,464,320	963,457	7,468,508	16,051,333	10,479,143	17,272,980	17,857,655	17,749,973	*Total for Bengal Proper.*
								BEHAR.
								Patna Division.
76,230	64,094	446,806	735,192	624,833	834,323	858,783	898,073	Patna.
84,208	64,752	574,367	903,937	760,244	991,646	1,043,441	1,081,241	Gya.
83,473	62,177	475,217	811,939	642,646	902,175	950,250	1,014,659	Shahabad.
64,215	47,699	641,673	1,208,683	788,363	1,270,297	1,295,788	1,337,659	Durbhunga.
77,233	53,195	646,861	1,140,367	809,327	1,209,042	1,265,731	1,316,329	Mozufferpore.
62,040	69,526	473,462	939,973	604,489	1,031,508	1,083,565	1,196,817	Sarun.
46,641	23,700	424,500	712,504	524,174	745,796	870,627	850,981	Chumparun.
494,040	385,143	3,682,886	6,452,595	4,754,076	6,984,787	7,368,185	7,695,759	Total.

VII.—General Statement showing the Occupations of

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	AGRICULTURAL CLASS.		PROFESSIONAL CLASS.		DOMESTIC CLASS.		COMMERCIAL CLASS.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
BHAGULPORE DIVISION.								
Monghyr	315,845	119,814	11,329	3,288	43,943	11,045	36,755	13,239
Bhagulpore	362,360	140,153	6,319	1,871	42,602	5,923	35,404	11,353
Purneah	325,663	56,093	6,064	1,050	63,945	8,782	42,743	20,551
Maldah	139,568	20,932	5,728	917	3,792	1,447	13,320	1,508
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	325,718	124,619	7,134	553	14,625	5,552	15,323	4,482
Total ...	1,469,154	461,611	36,574	7,679	168,907	32,749	143,545	51,133
Total for Behar ...	4,083,263	1,172,583	126,169	28,104	440,495	87,173	359,512	123,333
ORISSA DIVISION.								
Cuttack	265,599	12,754	24,974	416	9,369	3,244	12,161	317
Ungool	18,264	600	783	5	246	73	584	17
Bankee	8,749	162	807	.....	96	31	698	12
Pooree	146,177	5,559	19,459	263	4,391	784	6,156	329
Balasore	172,200	6,570	11,441	152	4,292	1,327	5,473	669
Total for Orissa ...	610,989	25,645	57,464	836	18,394	5,459	25,072	1,344
CHOTA NAGPORE DIVISION.								
Hazareebagh	178,991	61,929	5,280	1,567	14,703	3,105	10,353	3,172
Lohardugga	295,046	116,804	4,970	827	24,293	4,848	11,098	3,890
Singbhoom	83,932	9,480	2,613	107	2,150	1,891	1,921	637
Manbhoom	210,062	59,130	7,532	943	5,656	4,546	6,085	5,909
Total for Chota Nagpore ...	768,031	247,343	20,395	3,444	46,802	14,390	29,457	13,608
GRAND TOTAL FOR THE PROVINCE.	12,840,795	1,922,564	572,697	56,650	928,673	240,852	1,112,159	193,328
FEUDATORY STATES.								
Cooch Behar ...	125,559	8,594	32,011	135	3,700	891	11,940	1,096
Hill Tipperah ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tributary States—Orissa ...	250,379	17,629	18,371	298	5,983	2,696	9,608	344
Ditto—Chota Nagpore.	115,824	8,888	1,459	34	4,659	1,086	2,307	655
Total Feudatory States ...	491,762	35,111	51,841	467	14,342	4,673	23,855	2,095
GRAND TOTAL, INCLUDING FEUDATORY STATES.	13,332,557	1,957,675	624,538	57,117	943,015	245,525	1,136,014	195,423

the Population in each district in Bengal—concluded.

Manufacturing Industrial Class.		Indefinite and Non-Productive Class.		Total Non-Agricultural Class.		Grand Total.		Division and District.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
								Bhagulpore Division.
62,685	45,335	498,567	807,929	653,279	880,836	969,124	1,000,650	Monghyr.
51,829	32,093	480,605	795,646	616,759	846,886	979,119	987,039	Bhagulpore.
46,274	43,862	452,386	781,269	611,417	855,514	937,080	911,607	Purneah.
30,803	42,037	153,787	296,609	207,430	342,518	346,998	363,450	Maldah.
27,593	20,194	394,937	627,363	459,612	658,144	785,330	782,763	Sonthal Pergunnahs.
219,189	183,521	1,980,282	3,308,816	2,548,497	3,583,898	4,017,651	4,045,509	Total.
713,229	568,664	5,663,168	9,761,411	7,302,573	10,568,685	11,385,836	11,741,268	*Total for Behar.*
								Orissa Division.
101,923	134,584	435,228	737,596	583,655	876,157	849,254	888,911	Cuttack.
[illegible]	4,118	25,430	45,271	33,555	49,484	51,819	50,084	Ungool.
3,806	3,526	14,298	24,721	19,699	28,290	28,448	28,452	Bankee.
59,519	34,973	210,907	399,970	300,432	436,319	446,609	441,878	Pooree.
47,595	35,191	220,460	439,910	289,261	477,249	461,461	483,819	Balasore.
219,349	212,392	906,323	1,647,468	1,226,602	1,867,499	1,837,591	1,893,144	*Total for Orissa.*
								Chota Nagpore Division.
32,709	20,739	302,867	469,327	365,912	497,910	544,903	559,839	Hazareebagh.
52,816	34,597	408,434	651,621	501,611	695,783	796,657	812,587	Lohardugga.
11,473	4,062	124,592	210,917	142,749	217,614	226,681	227,094	Singbhoom.
32,779	30,982	263,214	431,390	315,266	473,770	525,328	532,900	Manbhoom.
129,777	90,380	1,099,107	1,763,255	1,325,538	1,885,077	2,093,569	2,132,420	*Total for Chota Nagpore.*
2,526,675	1,834,893	15,137,106	29,223,467	20,333,856	31,594,241	33,174,651	33,516,805	**Grand Total for the Province.**
								Feudatory States.
18,968	13,659	119,500	266,571	186,119	282,352	311,678	290,946	Cooch Behar.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	51,458	44,179	Hill Tipperah.
87,844	445,406	730,381	660,203	492,187	708,947	742,566	726,576	Tributary States—Orissa.
17,645	6,223	263,344	315,878	3029,414	323,876	345,238	332,764	Tributary States—Chota Nagpore.
124,457	65,288	693,225	1,242,652	907,720	1,315,175	1,450,940	1,394,465	*Total Feudatory States.*
2,651,132	1,900,181	15,830,331	30,466,119	21,241,576	32,909,416	34,625,591	34,911,270	**Grand Total, including Feudatory States.**

VIII.—Statement showing the Distribution

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	CLASS I. Brahman.			CLASS II. Rajput.			CLASS III. Other Hindu Castes.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
BURDWAN.									
Burdwan	49,807	57,877	*107,684*	3,662	3,556	*7,218*	460,114	497,515	*957,629*
Bankoorah	41,865	42,957	*84,822*	6,841	7,146	*13,987*	342,546	360,823	*703,369*
Beerbhoom	19,191	20,533	*39,724*	4,113	4,231	*8,344*	249,354	268,528	*517,882*
Midnapore	59,482	57,932	*117,414*	9,994	9,579	*19,573*	946,245	964,110	*1,910,355*
Hooghly	35,476	40,795	*76,271*	2,764	2,766	*5,530*	351,140	366,506	*717,646*
Howrah	19,666	19,475	*39,141*	695	344	*1,039*	219,976	221,639	*441,615*
Total ...	224,987	239,569	464,556	28,069	27,622	55,691	2,569,375	2,679,121	5,248,496
PRESIDENCY.									
24-Pergunnahs	39,663	36,380	*76,043*	3,922	2,006	*5,928*	526,012	487,762	*1,013,774*
Calcutta	27,043	11,825	*38,868*	5,212	1,464	*6,676*	141,935	80,366	*222,301*
Nuddea	27,542	32,352	*59,894*	3,050	2,997	*6,047*	361,007	382,615	*743,622*
Jessore	17,969	19,783	*37,752*	554	349	*903*	277,742	289,952	*567,694*
Khulna	14,327	14,327	*28,654*	342	209	*551*	250,556	224,748	*475,304*
Moorshedabad	16,906	17,029	*33,935*	4,647	4,308	*8,955*	259,961	278,359	*538,320*
Total ...	143,450	131,696	275,146	17,727	11,333	29,060	1,817,213	1,743,802	3,561,015
RAJSHAHYE.									
Dinagepore	5,248	3,665	*8,913*	1,675	1,210	*2,885*	129,517	116,410	*245,927*
Rajshahye	8,801	7,722	*16,523*	692	541	*1,233*	116,149	113,436	*229,585*
Rungpore	7,301	4,774	*12,075*	1,336	989	*2,325*	163,340	153,091	*316,431*
Bogra	2,781	1,833	*4,614*	300	72	*372*	51,956	45,278	*97,234*
Pubna	10,425	10,545	*20,970*	307	148	*455*	153,307	160,086	*313,393*
Darjeeling	2,539	1,343	*3,882*	4,086	2,266	*6,352*	17,225	11,220	*28,445*
Julpigoree	2,422	1,487	*3,909*	846	423	*1,269*	68,260	59,342	*127,602*
Total ...	39,467	31,419	70,886	9,242	5,649	14,891	699,754	658,863	1,358,617
DACCA.									
Dacca	28,096	32,446	*60,542*	2,462	2,900	*5,362*	365,911	389,716	*755,627*
Furreedpore	21,539	25,376	*46,915*	285	248	*533*	285,690	305,585	*591,275*
Backergunge	23,232	21,504	*44,736*	359	109	*468*	293,361	279,099	*572,460*
Mymensingh	26,664	23,488	*50,152*	1,320	847	*2,167*	450,135	430,525	*880,660*
Total ...	99,531	102,814	202,345	4,426	4,104	8,530	1,395,097	1,404,925	2,800,022
CHITTAGONG.									
Chittagong	10,419	10,936	*21,355*	509	531	*1,040*	115,899	130,373	*246,272*
Noakhollv	6,054	4,909	*10,963*	87	71	*158*	99,987	96,964	*196,951*
Tipperah	18,609	14,893	*31,502*	592	570	*1,162*	232,855	230,952	*463,807*
Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	86	15	*101*	7	.....	*7*	1,459	73	*1,532*
Total ...	33,168	30,753	63,921	1,195	1,172	2,367	450,200	458,362	908,562
TOTAL FOR BENGAL PROPER.	540,603	536,251	1,076,854	60,659	49,880	110,539	6,931,639	6,945,073	13,876,712

of the Hindu Population according to Castes.

CLASS IV. Aboriginal tribes and castes.			CLASS V. Hindus not recognising caste.			CLASS VI. Hindus, caste not stated.			GRAND TOTAL.		
Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
GAL.											
7,124	7,082	*14,206*	18,013	15,740	*28,753*	2,630	2,556	*5,186*	586,350	534,326	*1,120,676*
37,959	40,662	*78,621*	9,554	10,843	*20,397*	4,851	5,298	*10,149*	448,116	467,729	*910,845*
11,446	12,385	*23,831*	9,558	12,006	*21,564*	2,969	2,996	*5,965*	296,681	320,679	*617,310*
38,457	40,258	*78,715*	38,979	43,956	*82,935*	12,980	13,563	*26,543*	1,106,137	1,129,398	*2,235,535*
4,755	4,532	*9,287*	5,795	6,572	*12,367*	1,058	813	*1,871*	400,988	421,984	*822,972*
784	686	*1,470*	7,182	8,155	*15,337*	1,886	382	*2,268*	249,689	251,181	*500,870*
100,525	105,605	206,130	84,081	97,272	181,353	25,874	26,108	51,982	3,032,911	3,175,297	6,208,208
11,054	9,340	*20,394*	12,109	14,662	*26,771*	5,981	4,149	*10,130*	598,741	554,299	*1,153,040*
122	23	*145*	2,840	4,323	*7,163*	2,932	677	*3,609*	180,084	98,678	*278,762*
15,532	15,009	*30,541*	8,882	12,502	*21,384*	1,575	1,710	*3,285*	417,588	447,185	*864,773*
4,578	4,626	*9,204*	6,425	8,437	*14,862*	459	565	*1,024*	307,727	323,712	*631,439*
2,367	1,854	*4,221*	6,420	6,519	*12,939*	1,104	884	*1,988*	275,116	248,541	*523,657*
12,222	13,128	*25,350*	10,375	14,673	*25,048*	1,442	1,746	*3,188*	305,553	329,243	*634,796*
45,875	43,980	89,855	47,051	61,116	108,167	13,493	9,731	23,224	2,084,809	2,001,658	4,086,467
221,455	210,139	*431,594*	9,338	10,073	*19,411*	4,189	3,711	*7,900*	371,422	345,208	*716,630*
10,610	9,567	*20,177*	6,998	10,096	*17,094*	1,956	2,181	*4,137*	145,206	143,543	*288,749*
225,678	224,128	*449,801*	12,223	15,022	*27,245*	4,871	4,284	*8,655*	414,244	402,288	*816,532*
13,308	12,780	*26,083*	5,163	6,151	*11,314*	725	518	*1,243*	74,178	66,682	*140,860*
5,095	5,147	*10,242*	5,310	7,865	*13,175*	1,512	1,732	*3,244*	175,956	185,523	*361,479*
41,472	33,489	*74,961*	865	660	*1,525*	6,645	4,907	*11,552*	72,882	53,835	*126,717*
114,228	105,000	*219,228*	1,884	1,614	*3,448*	6,782	5,653	*12,435*	194,372	173,519	*367,891*
631,836	600,250	1,232,086	41,731	51,481	93,212	26,180	22,986	49,166	1,448,210	1,370,648	2,818,858
7,170	7,033	*14,203*	7,408	9,933	*17,341*	1,708	1,902	*3,605*	412,750	443,930	*856,680*
3,428	3,129	*6,552*	3,003	4,669	*7,672*	550	495	*1,045*	314,490	339,502	*653,992*
582	437	*969*	2,437	2,849	*5,286*	299	379	*678*	320,220	304,377	*624,597*
16,291	16,286	*32,577*	8,856	9,759	*18,115*	1,704	1,980	*3,684*	504,470	482,885	*987,355*
27,416	26,885	54,301	21,204	27,210	48,414	4,256	4,756	9,012	1,551,930	1,570,694	3,122,624
692	664	*1,356*	1,069	1,140	*2,209*	1,842	1,603	*2,945*	129,930	145,247	*275,177*
186	115	*251*	1,378	1,626	*3,004*	81	68	*149*	107,728	103,753	*211,476*
8,469	3,286	*6,755*	2,852	3,583	*6,435*	671	693	*1,364*	257,048	253,977	*511,025*
9,162	8,282	*17,444*	61	.....	*61*	686	[illegible]	*1,140*	11,461	8,824	*20,285*
13,459	12,347	25,806	5,360	6,349	11,709	2,780	2,818	5,598	506,162	511,801	1,017,963
819,111	789,067	1,608,178	199,427	243,428	442,855	72,583	66,399	138,982	8,624,022	8,630,098	17,254,120

VIII.—Statement shewing the Distribution of the

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	CLASS I. Brahman.			CLASS II. Rajput.			CLASS III. Other Hindu Castes.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
BE									
PATNA. Patna	24,911	22,130	*47,041*	32,946	31,386	*64,332*	697,055	723,708	*1,420,763*
Gya	40,826	38,744	*79,570*	57,006	57,396	*114,402*	790,741	808,614	*1,599,255*
Shahabad	104,127	109,181	*213,308*	102,045	105,150	*207,195*	657,706	702,167	*1,359,873*
Mozufferpore	47,817	48,389	*96,206*	84,304	83,290	*167,594*	965,678	1,002,631	*1,968,304*
Durbhunga	89,176	90,087	*179,263*	46,982	43,101	*90,083*	995,913	1,032,165	*2,028,078*
Sarun	83,358	90,009	*173,362*	118,002	125,970	*243,972*	739,030	817,211	*1,556,241*
Chumparun	39,966	36,318	*76,284*	42,126	38,638	*80,764*	639,581	629,142	*1,268,723*
Total ...	430,176	434,858	865,034	483,411	484,931	968,342	5,485,699	5,715,538	11,201,237
BHAUGULPORE. Monghyr	30,218	27,078	*57,291*	29,893	26,174	*56,067*	807,337	834,408	*1,641,745*
Bhaugulpore	36,732	34,688	*71,420*	32,699	27,792	*60,491*	785,862	799,178	*1,585,040*
Purneah	17,976	16,846	*34,822*	25,221	23,244	*48,465*	437,993	429,766	*867,759*
Maldah	6,170	5,831	*12,001*	2,654	2,450	*5,104*	137,051	138,526	*275,577*
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	19,418	16,657	*36,075*	14,234	13,890	*28,124*	326,282	326,240	*652,522*
Total ...	110,509	101,100	211,609	104,701	93,550	198,251	2,494,525	2,528,118	5,022,643
TOTAL FOR BEHAR ...	540,685	535,958	1,076,643	588,112	578,481	1,166,593	7,980,224	8,243,656	16,223,880
ORIS									
ORISSA. Cuttack	87,491	89,702	*177,193*	5,176	5,606	*10,782*	686,614	716,931	*1,403,545*
Pooree	44,026	44,666	*88,692*	1,940	1,958	*3,898*	372,755	367,398	*740,153*
Balasore	59,318	60,055	*119,373*	1,411	1,359	*2,770*	361,721	383,143	*744,864*
Angul	1,527	1,432	*2,959*	148	115	*258*	40,440	38,776	*79,216*
Banki	2,962	2,833	*5,795*	129	134	*263*	21,805	22,175	*43,980*
TOTAL FOR ORISSA ...	195,324	198,688	394,012	8,799	9,172	17,971	1,483,335	1,528,423	3,011,758
CHOTA									
CHOTA NAGPORE. Hazaribagh...	14,768	13,654	*28,422*	18,730	18,674	*37,404*	350,701	362,249	*712,950*
Lohardugga	21,312	21,127	*42,439*	23,881	23,590	*47,471*	281,035	282,058	*563,093*
Singbhoom	1,558	1,328	*2,886*	1,010	939	*1,949*	64,008	63,019	*127,027*
Manbhoom	25,419	23,771	*49,190*	8,002	7,940	*15,942*	304,354	309,566	*613,920*
TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE.	63,057	59,880	122,937	51,623	51,143	102,766	1,000,098	1,016,892	2,016,990
Grand Total for the Province.	1,339,669	1,330,777	2,670,446	709,193	688,676	1,397,869	17,395,296	17,734,044	35,129,340
FEUDATORY									
Cooch Behar	2,530	1,000	*3,530*	1,798	1,399	*3,197*	58,924	52,944	*111,868*
Hill Tipperah	Not available.								
Tributary States, Orissa ...	36,442	35,230	*71,672*	1,580	1,500	*3,030*	431,761	423,028	*854,789*
Ditto, Chota Nagpore...	4,420	4,032	*8,452*	2,629	2,629	*5,258*	185,899	130,455	*266,354*
TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES.	43,392	40,262	83,654	5,957	5,528	11,485	626,584	606,427	1,233,011
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.	1,383,061	1,371,039	2,754,100	715,150	694,204	1,409,354	18,021,880	18,340,471	36,362,351

Hindu Population according to Castes—concluded.

CLASS IV. Aboriginal tribes and castes.			CLASS V. Hindus not recognising caste.			CLASS VI. Hindus, caste not stated.			GRAND TOTAL.		
Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
11.	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
HAR.											
118	80	*193*	2,842	1,949	*4,791*	1,968	1,973	*3,941*	759,835	781,226	*1,541,061*
42,650	44,545	*87,195*	4,169	3,265	*7,434*	1,883	1,745	*3,628*	937,275	954,209	*1,891,484*
15,701	15,700	*31,401*	1,594	1,439	*3,033*	1,872	1,699	*3,071*	882,545	935,336	*1,817,881*
9,398	10,103	*19,496*	8,532	2,992	*6,524*	3,500	3,756	*7,256*	1,114,219	1,151,161	*2,265,380*
5,664	5,322	*10,986*	2,868	2,022	*5,790*	4,892	4,887	*9,779*	1,145,495	1,178,434	*7,323,929*
9,735	11,218	*20,953*	1,889	1,587	*3,476*	5,871	7,083	*12,954*	957,880	1,053,078	*2,010,958*
21,068	19,881	*40,949*	1,884	1,217	*3,051*	3,641	3,573	*7,214*	748,216	728,769	*1,476,985*
104,324	106,849	211,173	18,728	15,371	34,099	23,127	24,716	47,843	6,545,465	6,782,263	13,327,728
2,555	2,631	*5,186*	3,182	3,313	*6,495*	3,529	3,700	*7,229*	876,709	897,304	*1,774,013*
15,091	16,443	*31,534*	2,141	1,969	*4,110*	6,135	5,574	*11,709*	878,660	885,044	*1,764,304*
43,712	42,654	*86,366*	3,745	3,622	*7,367*	16,183	15,577	*31,760*	544,830	531,709	*1,076,539*
35,323	34,721	*70,044*	4,322	5,538	*9,860*	3,344	3,223	*6,567*	188,864	190,289	*379,153*
52,759	55,596	*108,355*	3,902	4,291	*8,193*	7,062	7,259	*14,321*	423,657	423,933	*847,590*
149,440	152,045	301,485	17,292	18,733	36,025	36,253	35,333	71,586	2,912,720	2,928,879	5,841,599
253,764	258,894	512,658	36,020	34,104	70,124	59,380	60,049	119,429	9,458,185	9,711,142	19,169,327
SA.											
27,098	30,989	*58,087*	16,080	15,248	*31,328*	2,974	3,699	*6,673*	825,433	862,175	*1,687,608*
14,033	14,218	*28,251*	4,073	3,629	*7,702*	2,386	2,582	*4,968*	439,213	434,451	*873,664*
8,521	8,349	*16,870*	13,058	13,102	*26,160*	2,801	2,954	*5,755*	446,830	468,962	*915,792*
7,963	8,196	*16,159*	441	406	*847*	495	432	*927*	51,009	49,357	*100,366*
2,234	2,295	*4,529*	176	149	*325*	990	737	*1,727*	28,296	28,323	*56,619*
59,849	64,047	123,896	33,828	32,534	66,362	9,646	10,404	20,050	1,790,781	1,843,268	3,634,049
NAGPORE.											
67,600	71,553	*139,153*	2,108	1,914	*4,022*	1,498	1,362	*2,860*	465,405	459,406	*924,811*
97,113	98,488	*195,601*	4,591	4,521	*9,112*	5,673	5,453	*11,126*	433,605	435,237	*868,842*
151,099	152,752	*303,851*	1,746	1,745	*3,491*	4,193	4,413	*8,606*	223,614	224,196	*447,810*
118,600	123,044	*241,644*	7,194	7,672	*14,866*	5,120	5,565	*10,685*	468,689	477,558	*946,247*
434,412	445,837	880,249	15,639	15,852	31,491	16,484	16,793	33,277	1,581,313	1,606,397	3,187,710
1,567,136	1,557,845	3,124,981	284,914	325,918	610,832	158,093	153,645	311,738	21,454,301	21,790,905	43,245,206
STATES.											
155,951	150,077	*306,028*	612	670	*1,282*	857	716	*1,573*	220,672	206,806	*427,478*
Not available.						6,256	3,523	*9,779*	6,256	3,523	*9,779*
75,487	73,867	*149,354*	3,656	3,296	*6,952*	6,766	6,654	*13,420*	555,642	543,575	*1,099,217*
180,875	174,528	*355,403*	1,282	1,187	*2,469*	16,568	10,622	*33,190*	341,673	329,453	*671,126*
412,313	398,472	810,785	2,550	5,153	10,703	30,447	27,515	57,962	1,124,243	1,083,857	2,207,600
1,979,449	1,956,317	3,935,766	290,464	331,071	621,535	188,540	181,160	369,700	22,578,544	22,874,262	45,452,806

Changes of Administration.

THE administrative changes that were carried out within the year 1882-83 were comparatively few and unimportant. A Burial Board was appointed under the provisions of Act V (B.C.) of 1881 to make better provision for the general management, regulation, and control of the Government burial grounds in the Town of Calcutta and its Suburbs.

Appointment of a Burial Board in Calcutta and its Suburbs.

Considerable attention was devoted during the year to the elaboration of the measure, which is still under consideration, for the extension of local self-government. It has been decided that the unit of administration shall be the Sub-divisional Board, *i.e.*, a local representative Board with jurisdiction restricted to the area of a sub-division. Subordinate to these there will be Union Committees constituted for groups of villages situated within the sub-division. Under this arrangement the entire district, where a full application of the scheme is practicable, would be divided into local areas so limited in extent as to secure the combination of local knowledge and local interest and at the same time of sufficient extent to provide work of importance, and would be placed under Boards charged with definite duties and entrusted with the administration of definite funds.

Local self-government.

The question as to the authority by which the Local Boards shall be controlled and directed has not yet been decided. It was proposed by the Government of Bengal, as the most convenient and satisfactory arrangement, that a Central Board should be created with executive functions equivalent to those of a Local Government, and charged specially with the duty of supervising the working of Local Boards. The proposal, however, did not meet with the approval of the Secretary of State, and the system of control is therefore still under consideration.

To avoid much of the delay and error which must necessarily be involved in the sudden introduction of so large and important a measure as that of local self-government, a special officer has been deputed, in anticipation of the executive action which will have to be taken when the law is finally passed, to visit the more advanced districts and to supervise the preliminaries connected with the creation of Unions in such places as are considered eligible for the introduction of the scheme.

The question of improving the position and prospects of the officers employed in the Opium Department has engaged the attention of Government for some time past. With this object certain proposals were submitted in the early part of last year to the Government of India, which, with some slight modifications, were sanctioned by the Secretary of State. The numerical strength of the Department was not altered, but the several grades and the number of officers in each grade were so arranged as to secure as far as possible to the officers in the Department an equable flow of promotion from the lower to the higher grades. A new grade of probationers has been introduced with the view of obviating the necessity of throwing out of employment officiating assistants when the acting vacancies in the Department are reduced in number in consequence of the return of senior officers from leave or deputation. Not only had these frequent changes been felt as a serious hardship by the officers themselves, but they had in many instances led to Government losing the services of officers who, on being so thrown out of employ, succeeded in obtaining permanent appointments elsewhere. The creation of this new grade will, it is

Reorganization of the Opium Department.

hoped, render unnecessary in future the appointment of officiating officers. The new organization involved a total increased expenditure of Rs. 54,300 per annum, including the pay of six probationers in the Department.

Withdrawal of Act XIV of 1868, the Indian Contagious Diseases' Act, from Calcutta.

In November 1881 the operation of the Contagious Diseases' Act was, with the sanction of the Government of India, restricted to the southern portion of the Town of Calcutta and to those neighbouring parts of the Suburbs which were inhabited by women in the habit of receiving soldiers and seamen. In accordance with the views of the Supreme Government, communicated in February 1883, the Act has been wholly withdrawn, with effect from the 15th March following, as an experimental measure. Arrangements have, however, been made to maintain the two existing lock-hospitals for the treatment of persons who voluntarily present themselves. The examination wards have been closed, and the special establishments connected with them have been dispensed with.

Appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service.

The Lieutenant-Governor had for some time past been of opinion that the system under which the Subordinate Executive Service in these Provinces was being recruited was not satisfactory, inasmuch as it afforded Government no sufficient means of forming an opinion on the qualifications of the candidates for employment in that service. The Lieutenant-Governor has accordingly determined on gradually introducing a scheme under which appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service as Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors will be conferred according to the results of a competitive examination. This appears to be the most likely way of attaining the object in view, viz. to procure best men available for the public service. As, however, no mere system of examination as regards educational qualifications is sufficient for this purpose, the Lieutenant-Governor's desire is to combine with educational tests some practical experience of fitness for official work. It is therefore proposed to employ successful candidates as subordinates to Personal Assistants to Commissioners of Divisions, as Assistants to Managers of Government and Wards' estates, as Assistants to Superintendents of Surveys and Settlements, or in any other capacity where they will have an opportunity of learning the practical duties of the every-day work of the Subordinate Executive Service. During such employment they will be regarded as probationers, and will receive a small subsistence allowance. Their eventual appointment to substantive posts will depend upon the manner in which they discharge their duties. Ordinarily there are six or seven substantive vacancies in the year. These will be filled up according to the results of the examination. The first examination will take place on 3rd January 1884. At this examination persons whose names had been registered as eligible for appointment as Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, together with Sub-Deputy Collectors of the 1st and 2nd grade, and those of the 3rd and 4th grades who have either passed the Native Civil Service Examination or the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University, will be allowed to compete.

Owing to the abdication by Syed Munsoor Ali of his position as Nawab Nazim and his retirement from Moorshedabad, it was no longer considered necessary to continue the procedure provided in Act XXVII of 1854, under which all civil processes for service or execution within the precincts of the Nazim's palace were served through the Superintendent of the affairs of the Nizamut, or any other officer exercising for the time being the control and superintendence of the affairs of the Nizamut. Act XXVII of 1854 was accordingly repealed during the year, and such processes are now served within the precincts of the Moorshedabad palace in the usual way.

Frontier Relations and Feudatory States.

THE largest and most important of the Native States bordering on Bengal is Nepal, whose territory subtends the divisions of Patna and Bhaugulpore. Political relations with Nepal are under the direct control of the Government of India in the Foreign Department, and the only questions that arise between it and the Government of Bengal are matters of extradition and boundary.

Nepal.

To the east of Nepal lies Sikkim, a small Himalayan State in subsidiary alliance with the British Government, with which communication is kept up through the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling. An annual payment of Rs. 12,000, is made to the Sikkimputi or Lord of Sikkim, in consideration of his position as former ruler of the hill territory of Darjeeling and a submontane tract on the plains, called the Morung. Through Sikkim lie the most promising routes for trade with Lhassa and other parts of Thibet. At present, however, the Thibetan passes are closed to ordinary British subjects, though an active trade is maintained in certain articles by Bhuteas and Thibetans.

Sikkim.

Bordering on Sikkim, and bounding the districts of Darjeeling and Julpigoree in Bengal and the province of Assam, lies Bhutan, a large independent State, with which we have had intercourse from a very early period of our rule in India. Its territory occupies the whole of the Himalayan ranges between Bengal and Thibet for some four degrees of longitude. Repeated outrages on our subjects by the hillmen led from time to time to punitive measures on our part, chiefly consisting in the annexation, temporarily or permanently, of the various dwárs or submontane tracts with the passes leading into the hills. The rude reception given to the embassy of the Hon'ble A. Eden in 1863 led to war, and the ulimate confiscation of the whole of the dwárs. As, however, the Bhútanees depended mainly upon these for their revenue, it was arranged to allow them annually a subsidy of Rs. 50,000 during good behaviour. This gives us an effectual control over them, while the occupation of two strong positions at Buxa and Dewangiri, within their frontier, serves also as material guarantee against future aggression. The following represents, in tabular form, the principal facts regarding our relations with Sikkim and Bhútan.

Bhútan.

Native States of Sikkim and Bhútan.

NAME OF STATE.	In subsidiary alliance or feudatory.	Tribute in men or money.	Date of treaty, with authority.	Population.	Supposed gross revenue.	Military force.	Transit duties or not.	Principal articles of production, including manufactures and mines.
Sikkim	Subsidiary alliance. We pay the Rajah Rs. 12,000 annually, compensation for lands, &c.	None ...	28th March 1861. Aitchison, Vol. I, p. 144.	Said to be 8,000; probably more.	Rs. 7,000 per annum, besides what we give.	None ...	Transit duties so far are taken that goods have to pay toll on crossing rivers spanned by bridges.	Rice, Indian corn, millet, oranges, tea, and two or three sort of Lepcha cloth *Mineral Productions.* Lime and copper.
Bhútan	Independent.. We pay Rs. 50,000 per annum, compensation for territory annexed.	None ...	25th April 1774, and 11th November 1865. Aitchison, Vol. I, pp. 155 and 162.	Hon'ble Ashley Eden estimated it at 20,000. It is probably much more.	Not known ...	Estimated by Hon'ble A. Eden at about 6,000.	Same as above	Rice, Indian corn, millet, and two sorts of cloth. Musk, ponies, chowries, and silk are the chief articles of trade.—Eden's Report, page 95.

Since the separation of Assam from Bengal in 1874 the political relations of this Government with the various tribes of hillmen on the frontier of that province have ceased.

Kookies.

The hills to the south and west of the native State of Munipore, and much of the great belt of highland and forest lying between Cachar—a district in Assam—and Chittagong and Burmah, are inhabited by tribes known to us by the generic name of Kookie. This appellation covers a great number of different clans, often hostile to each other.

Lushais.

The tribe, which now occupies the tract south of Cachar, is known to us as 'Lushais,' and has given much trouble both on the side of Cachar and of Chittagong, and been the cause of several military expeditions of which the Administration Reports contain accounts. Our relations with them on the side of Cachar belong to the history of the Assam Administration. On the side of Chittagong the Lushai tribes are those of the Syloos (broken up by a column of the expedition of 1871-72); the Howlongs; and the clan of Rutton Poea. The Syloos have, since the expedition, been in constant friendly intercourse with our frontier officers. We gave them advances of rice and money to obviate the suffering caused by the loss of their crops, and they received and supported a guard at one of their principal villages. The Howlongs are less intimate with us. During the scarcity which prevailed on the Chittagong Hill Tracts frontier during 1882, several Howlong Chiefs came into British territory to ask for assistance and the gratuitous distribution by us of rice to the tribe gave them much satisfaction, and will, it is hoped, lead to the establishment of more friendly relations.

Shindoos.

Proceeding southward, we have in the south of the Chittagong Hill Tracts the Shindoos and other tribes of the highlands between Chittagong and Burmah. Of these, however, we know little, save that they are different from the Kookies, that they raid occasionally in the Sungoo valley, and that their villages are practically inaccessible from Chittagong, though more open, it is believed, to the side of Arracan. From the Arracan authorities we learn that they are very numerous, apparently of Indo-Chinese race, though their dialects vary so much that Burmese has become their *lingua franca*. They live in a state of constant warfare. The Shindoos are especially powerful and much-feared. They live on the Upper Koladyne, and neither pay tribute nor own the authority of any British officer. In their predatory expeditions several villages and clans are said to join together. Attempts are being made to reach and influence this people from the Arracan Hill Tracts, and of late years raids have certainly been less frequent During the year 1882 a durbar and a mela were held at Ruma with a view to establish friendly relations between the Shindoos and the tribes on our frontier but only four Shindoos, who were not Chiefs, attended the meeting.

Hill Tipperah.

Between the Lushai tract and the British district of Tipperah on the west, lies the hill territory of the Tipperah Raja. This State is under no specific engagements with us, though its Raja is a British zemindar, deriving the greater portion of his income from landed property in the adjoining regulation district of Tipperah. The succession to the chiefship has several times been decided by the result of suits for the zemindary in the Privy Council. The State itself is surrounded almost on all sides by tracts under our control. In 1871 a Political Agent was appointed to Hill Tipperah. The Magistrate of Tipperah is now the *ex-officio* Political Agent and an Assistant Political Agent resides at Agartallah the capital of the state. Hill Tipperah is now practically a feudatory State, paying however no tribute to the English Government. The population is stated to be 95,637 at the census of 1881, and its annual revenue is Rs. 2,29,961. It possesses a so-called army of 335 men and officers. Its chief products are rice, cotton, timber, bamboos, canes, firewood, and oilseeds. It has no manufactures worth the name, but a coal mine has recently been discovered in the Kailasha division of the State.

Cooch Behar.

In the plains at the foot of the Bhutan Hills is the feudatory State of Cooch Behar, which was until a few months ago under the direct management of British officers during the minority of the Maharajah. This State first sought our aid in 1772, when, in consideration of the cession in perpetuity of half its revenues as then ascertained, and an acknowledgment of subjection to the British Government, we

drove out the Bhutanese who held possession of its Raja and capital. Cooch Behar has an area of 1,307 square miles. It is almost surrounded by the districts of Julpigoree and Rungpore. The following table gives some particulars regarding it:—

Name of State.—Cooch Behar.
In subsidiary alliance or feudatory.—Feudatory.
Tribute in men or money.—In money, Rs. 67,700-15.
Date of treaty, with authority.—5th April 1773, Aitchison, Vol. I, p. 197.
Population.—6,02,624.
Gross revenue.—Rs. 13,31,663.
Military force.— 116 sepoys 7 cavalry who are merely orderly Sowars in uniform and are not drilled, 4 guns and 7 gunners.
Transit duties or not.—No transit duties.
Principal articles of production, including manufactures and mines.—Rice, tobacco, jute, mustard-seed, and bamboos. The manufactures are insignificant, and consist chiefly of mustard-oil, gunny-cloth, and brass vessels. There are no mines. The trade in jute is particularly important.

Chota Nagpore Mehals.

Leaving the north-east frontier, we come to the tributary states of Chota Nagpore and Orissa on the south-west frontier of Bengal. Most of the Chota Nagpore states form part of a group of 21 mehals ceded by the Mahrattas, the remainder of which are now under the Central Provinces Government. These states are governed by their own chiefs under the control of the Commissioner, and are exempted from the operation of the ordinary laws. The chiefs dispose of civil matters and minor criminal cases, sending up heinous offences for the orders of the Commissioner, who exercises a general control over their administration in other respects.

Cuttack Tributary Mehals.

There are 17 similar states under the Commissioner of Orissa, known as the Cuttack Tributary Mehals. These with two other states, viz. Angool and Bankee were also made over by the Mahrattas in full sovereignty, but for administrative purposes were left to be managed by their chiefs, styled in the old regulations "hill or jungle zemindars." By regulations of 1805 they were exempted from the operation of the ordinary laws and regulations in force in the rest of Orissa and Bengal. Angool and Bankee have lapsed to Government owing to the misconduct of their chiefs; the rest continue to be administered by their chiefs. Since the beginning of the year 1882-83 Bankee has been annexed to the regulation district of Cuttack by Act XXV of 1881. Angool, which is now a scheduled district, and the Khondmals, which originally formed a portion of Boad but were subsequently surrendered by their chief to the British Government, are under the immediate management of the Commissioner or Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Cuttack. A question was recently raised whether these Tributary Mehals form part of British India; it was referred for the consideration of the Government of India in April last and has not yet been finally settled.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

COOCH BEHAR.

Land revenue.

THE current demand for the past year was Rs. 9,67,582, as compared with Rs. 9,71,139 for the preceding year. The net arrear demand for 1882-83 amounted to Rs. 3,25,764, as against Rs. 3,57,705 for 1881-82; the total demand for the past year being Rs. 12,93,346, as compared with Rs. 13,28,844 for the preceding year. The amount collected was Rs. 9,43,699 (including Rs. 3,027 paid in before it was due), as compared with Rs. 9,64,861 (including Rs. 2,627 paid in advance collected in 1881-82, and Rs. 53,434 were written off, as compared with Rs. 43,910 in the preceding year. The outstanding balance at the close of the year was Rs. 2,99,240, as compared with Rs. 3,22,700 at the close of the preceding year; and of the balance, Rs. 1,10,695 was due on account of the demand for 1882-83, and Rs. 1,88,545 was due on account of the arrears for years preceding it. Of this latter amount, it is believed that Rs. 80,000 will be found to be irrecoverable. The decrease in the revenue is stated to be due to the relinquishment of jotes which cannot be immediately resettled, to diluvion, and to land being taken up for public purposes. The gross amount of loss by relinquishment of bad jotes is set against the revenue derived from new settlements; and as lands resumed or abandoned on account of the cultivators being unable to make a profit out of them are not easily resettled, the loss is always greater than the gain. The present settlement will last only up to the 31st March next. There are, however, holdings in which there is excess land, or land which, though waste when the settlement was originally made, has since been brought under cultivation; and Government has approved of a proposal that such of these holdings as contained more than 10 per cent. of uncultivated land when the settlement was made should be remeasured during the ensuing cold weather, and that the land found to have been brought into cultivation should be assessed at eight annas per bigah, with the exception of land kept as a reserve for grazing or for the supply of materials for the construction of houses.

Of the Rs. 21,162 by which the collections of 1882-83 fell short of those of the preceding year, about Rs. 20,000 were due from proprietors of involved estates which had been made over to them by the Court of Wards shortly before the close of the year; and as the defaulters asked for time to endeavour to make some arrangements to meet their liabilities, the attachment and sale of their estates was deferred. The decrease in collections was also partly due to the fall in the prices of jute and tobacco. The percentage of collections on the current demand was 97·5, and looking to the fact that the balance at the close of the year was less than that at the close of the preceding year, the result is satisfactory. There was a slight increase in the percentage of balance on demand at the close of the year in the Sudder sub-division, whilst there was an improvement in the other three sub-divisions. The increase was due to the fact that most of the involved estates made over as above stated to their proprietors by the Court of Wards are situated in the Sudder sub-division. There were 8,786 processes issued during the year for the recovery of arrears of revenue, as compared with 9,406 issued in 1881-82. The number of jotes sold was 709, as compared with 752 in the preceding year; in 113 cases the leases were cancelled and the jotes resumed, and 72 jotedars relinquished their holdings. There were 2,656 rent-suits for disposal during the past year, as compared with 2,717 during 1881-82. Of these, 191 were pending from the preceding year, 45 were revived suits, and 2,420 were instituted during the year. Of the total number, 2,466 were disposed of during the year, as

compared with 2,526 during the preceding year, and 190 were pending at its close, as compared with 191 pending at the close of 1881-82.

Crops.

The agricultural results of the past year were not altogether favourable. The jute crop was a very abundant one, but owing to the fall in price the cultivators did not obtain from it the large returns which might have been expected. The immense development of jute cultivation in Cooch Behar and the neighbouring districts in the Rajshahye Division is indicated by the fact that during the past year 7,49,000 maunds of jute were exported by rail from the Huldibari station on the Northern Bengal State Railway, as compared with 1,80,000 maunds in the preceding year. The early rice crop was also good; but the late rice suffered from want of sufficient rain in July and August, while the heavy rains in October injured the tobacco and the mustard crop. Although it is said that the wants of the people have increased with the spread of education and civilization, yet the fact that the standard of living is now much higher than it used to be in former years, and that in the present day something beyond the mere necessaries of life are in request, is clear indication of an improvement in the material condition of the people. Though there was a fall in the prices of jute and tobacco, there need be no apprehension regarding the future of these crops in the State. The very large outturn of the former throughout the country may have for a time caused a fall in prices; the growing demand, however, will soon affect the supply; and the climate of Cooch Behar being suitable for these products, there can be little fear that the people will cease to cultivate crops which they have grown for years, and which are suited to the soil.

Court of Wards.

The changes effected by the Court of Wards in the release of a number of estates will in time prove beneficial, though at the outset the collections have been prejudicially affected by them. Only five estates now remain under the Court of Wards, and these have been placed under a manager.

State records.

The printing of the select records of the Cooch Behar State was completed during the year. The compilation contains all letters of historical or local interest since the year 1777. Indexes are now being prepared, and when the whole is completed it should form an interesting and valuable record.

The increased work in the State rendered an increased staff necessary, and a second officer was appointed to go from sub-division to sub-division to dispose of cases. The appointment was only made temporarily, so that the Maharajah can exercise his discretion in continuing it or not hereafter.

Excise.

The excise revenue realized during the year amounted to Rs. 63,403, as compared with Rs. 62,635 and Rs. 59,223 in 1881-82 and 1880-81 respectively. As compared with the previous year, there was an increase of Rs. 2,357 in the amount realized from the duty on ganja, due to an increase in the rate of duty, and a decrease of Rs. 1,459 in the amount realized from the license fees for the sale of that drug. Under the head of country spirits there was a slight decrease in the receipts of Rs. 158. There has been a large increase during the last two years in the quantity of imported spirits brought into the State. In 1880-81 the number of bottles imported amounted to 1,252 only; in 1881-82 the number had increased to 2,875, and during the past year it rose to 3,709 bottles. Cheap imported spirit is necessarily of inferior quality, and it would be well to check the increase in its consumption, both in the interests of the consumers and in those of the State, the revenue of which, there seems little doubt, would suffer from the effect the larger use of imported liquor must have on the consumption of country spirit. An increase in the import duty may therefore be desirable, but this is a matter which has been left to the Maharajah to deal with as he may think advisable.

Stamps.

There was an increase in the realizations of stamp revenue. Deducting the amount paid to vendors as commission, the net amount realized was Rs. 1,27,957, as compared with Rs. 1,23,796 in 1881-82. There was only a slight increase in the amount realized by the sale of judicial and court-fee stamps, as compared with the receipts of the preceding year. The chief increase was under the head of

documentary stamps, amounting to Rs. 2,604. It is very probable that this branch of the revenue is capable of much further development.

Registration.

The total number of deeds registered during the year was 7,350, as compared with 6,941 during 1881-82. Of these, 5,041 were compulsory and 2,309 optional, against 4,706 compulsory and 2,235 optional registered during the preceding year. Nearly 60 per cent. of the deeds registered were leases, the number being 4,372, as compared with 4,041 in 1881-82. The number of deeds of sale registered was 881, and of deeds of mortgage 235. No wills were registered during the year. The receipts amounted to Rs. 6,759, as compared with Rs. 6,177 in 1881-82, and the disbursements to Rs. 3,121, as compared with Rs. 3,065; the net income derived from this source in the past year thus exceeded by Rs. 526 the net receipts of the preceding year.

Finance.

The financial results of the year were again, as in the preceding year, better than were anticipated. In the revised estimates for the year it was anticipated that the revenue would amount to Rs. 13,10,286, and the ordinary expenditure to Rs. 14,03,935. The accounts for the year show, however, that the receipts amounted to Rs. 13,31,663, while the ordinary expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,36,380 only. A large portion of the decrease was due to the small progress made in the building of the palace. As compared with the regular estimates for the past year, the actuals show a decrease of Rs. 22,832 under the head of "Land Revenue," Rs. 3,549 under "Debutter," Rs. 4,705 under "Jails" and Rs. 70 under "Education, Science and Art." The receipts under the other heads show an increase, the largest being Rs. 21,653 under "Stamps," Rs. 13,015 under "Public Works" and Rs. 7,882 under "Miscellaneous." There was a very small increase in the actual over the estimated expenditure under the heads "Jails," "Registration" and "Printing and Stamp Charges." Under all the other heads there was a decrease, that under "Public Works" alone amounting to Rs. 1,27,490.

Civil justice.

During the past year 3,336 suits were instituted, as compared with 2,798 during that which preceded it. Of the total number of cases, including those pending from the preceding year, 3,102 were disposed of, as compared with 3,030 during 1881-82, and 651, as compared with 417 in the preceding year, were pending at its close. There was again an increase in the number of Small Cause Court cases, these suits having risen from 1,977 in 1880-81 and 2,429 in 1881-82 to 2,925 during the past year. The total value of all suits during 1882-83 was Rs. 2,11,972, as compared with Rs. 1,91,824 in the preceding year. The total number of appeals, including 89 pending from the preceding year, was 281. In 72 the original orders were confirmed, in 29 modified or reversed, and 57 were otherwise disposed of, leaving the large number of 123 pending at the close of the year. Of the appeals disposed of, 48 were disposed of by the Judge and 110 by the Dewany Ahilkar. The civil court receipts amounted to Rs. 47,660, as compared with Rs. 39,571 in the preceding year, and the disbursements to Rs. 22,743, as compared with Rs. 22,208 in 1881-82. Of the amount disbursed, Rs. 13,009 were expended on account of the salaries of the presiding officers, and Rs. 9,734 represented the cost of establishment and other charges.

Criminal justice.

The total number of criminal offences reported during the year was 2,244, as compared with 2,105 in 1881-82 and 2,132 in 1880-81, the number of cognizable cases being 974, and of non-cognizable cases 1,270, as compared with 905 and 1,200 respectively in the preceding year. Offences against the State, public tranquillity and justice fell from 10 in 1881-82 to 7 in 1882-83, while "serious offences against the person" fell from 67 to 63. Under the head of "serious offences against property" there was an increase, there having been 362 such cases, as compared with 287 during the preceding year and 48 in 1880-81. The increase in 1881-82 was probably due to cases previously shown as "theft in a building" (under the head of "minor offences against property") having in the latter year been shown under the head of "burglary;" while the further increase during the past year was possibly attributable to the fact that this new procedure was in force during the

The year, while it only obtained during nine months of the preceding year, "Minor offences against the person" increased from 70 in 1881-82 to 94 during the past year, while "minor offences against property" fell from 457 to 427. Out of 2,123 persons put on their trial during the past year, 1,278, or 62·4 per cent., were convicted, as compared with 1,209, or 60·8 per cent., out of 2,048 persons tried during 1881-82. The result, though better than during the past year, was worse than that of 1880-81, in which year 66·9 per cent. of the persons put on their trial were convicted. The number of persons against whom cases were pending at the close of the year was 70. The fines imposed during the year amounted to Rs. 8,469, as compared with Rs. 7,573 imposed during 1881-82, and Rs. 3,137 were outstanding at the commencement of the year. The amount realized during the year was Rs. 7,211, and Rs. 2,449 were written off, leaving an unrealized balance of Rs. 1,946 at the close of the year. Excluding suicides, there were 142 accidental deaths, as compared with 132 in 1881-82. Of these, 77 were caused by drowning, 37 by snake-bite, and 7 persons were killed by wild beasts. The causes of the remaining 21 deaths are not specified.

Police.

Exclusive of the District Superintendent of Police, the strength of the police force was 42 officers and 265 constables. The increase, as compared with the preceding year, of one head constable and six constables was due to the opening of the outpost at Gitaldaha. The total cost of the force was Rs. 42,906. Out of 494 persons sent up by the police for trial in cases which they enquired into of their own motion, 337, or 73·26 per cent., as compared with 72·09 in the preceding year, were convicted.

Jail.

At the commencement of the year there were 225 prisoners in the jail, and 527 were admitted during the year. Of the total jail population of 752, 535 were released, seven were transferred, four died, one escaped, and 205 were in the jail at the close of the year. In the preceding year there were six deaths. The number of prisoners during that year was, however, larger than during 1882-83, the average population during 1881-82 being 213, as compared with 187 during the past year, the death-rate in each year being two per cent. The total cost of the jail was Rs. 14,321, as compared with Rs. 15,256 during 1881-82. The net cost, however, rose from Rs. 9,326 to Rs. 9,577 during the past year. The average gross expenditure on account of each prisoner amounted to Rs. 76-9-4, as compared with Rs. 68-11-4 during the preceding year. The prisoners were employed on a variety of manufactures during the past year, amongst which brick-making took a prominent place. More than four and a half lakhs of bricks were manufactured, the total value of which was Rs. 4,746. The gross earnings of the prisoners during the past year were Rs. 6,327, as compared with Rs. 7,454 during the preceding year; the net earnings being Rs. 4,744 and Rs. 5,930 in those years respectively. The decrease is attributed to the smaller number of prisoners employed on manufactures. The number of corporal punishments in the jail during the past year was 6 only, as compared with 13 during the preceding year.

Medical.

The total number of patients treated at the various hospitals and dispensaries in the State during the past year was 14,599, as compared with 14,75[illegible] in the preceding year. Of these 13,400, or 20 more than in the preceding year, were out-door patients. The number of in-door patients fell from 370 to 1,199 in consequence of the healthiness of the year, especially among the military, the police and the jail population. The prevailing diseases were, as in the preceding year, fever, goitre and skin diseases. The death-rate amongst the in-door patients, excluding those in the jail and those belonging to the military and police forces, amounted to 7·51 per cent. The expenditure on the four dispensaries—the Sudder, Mecklignnge, Matabhanga and Dinhatta—amounted to Rs. 10,410-7-11, or an average of 11 annas and 4 pie per patient, as compared with Rs. 10,393-7-5, or 11 annas and 3 pie per patient in 1881-82. During the past year 20,704 persons were vaccinated, as compared with 19,458 during the preceding year. The total cost of the operations, including the pay of the establishment, was Rs. 2,066, or an average of 1 anna and 7½ pie for each successful operation. Inoculation is now illegal throughout the whole of the

State. Vaccinations are performed partly by paid vaccinators and partly by licensed, but unpaid men. It is proposed, however, to abolish the former class.

Education.

The number of schools increased from 318 in 1881-82 to 330 during the past year, while the number of pupils increased from 9,260 to 9,541. The daily average attendance, however, fell from 6,084 to 5,960. The Training School was abolished at the beginning of the year. The total expenditure in the department was Rs. 77,144, as compared with Rs. 81,010 in the preceding year; and of this sum Rs. 56,776 were contributed by the State, the balance being met from local sources.

Public works.

The total allotment for the Public Works Department was Rs. 2,33,437, and of this amount Rs. 1,99,323 was expended. Two rooms were added to the Printing Office at a cost of Rs. 5,574. A Public Works godown was erected at Gitaldaha, to which place the State agency was removed from Huldibari on the opening of the tramway to Mogulhât, which lies on the opposite side of the river from Gitaldaha. Two houses, each containing five rooms, were erected at a cost of Rs 6,102 in the town of Cooch Behar for the accommodation of native guests. The house for Kumar Gojendra Narayan was completed, and one of the two Rajanders was removed and re-erected, and the site for the second one was enclosed. Progress was also made in preparing the grounds round the new palace and in digging one of the two pieces of ornamental water which they are to contain. Great advances have been made since 1875 in improving communications. In that year the total length of the roads in the State was only 118 miles, and, excluding culverts, the length of bridging was only 564 feet. There are now 284½ miles of road, and the length of the various pile bridges aggregate 9,321 running feet. During the past year 13½ miles of new road were undertaken. The new market has been completed at a cost of Rs. 25,193, and is a great improvement to the town. The progress made in the construction of the palace was unsatisfactory, the contractors having failed to make the necessary quantity of good bricks, or to employ a sufficient number of workmen.

Cooch Behar wards.

The Cooch Behar wards, who were being educated at Kishnaghur, were, in consequence of the unhealthiness of that place, removed during the year to Bankipore, where a house was secured for them about a mile from the college.

Since the close of the year the Maharajah has been formally installed as ruler of the State. He will be assisted in the administration by a Council of three members, over which he will preside. He brings to assist him in the discharge of his important duties enlightenment, education and a keen sense of the responsibilities of his position. There is therefore every reason to hope that his Government will conduce to the well being of the State and the prosperity of his people.

CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.

General state of the frontier.

The past year was quiet and uneventful, and the relations of Government with the tribes were pacific. In the earlier part of it there were rumours that men belonging to the Mulienpui and Shindu tribes were moving about in the vicinity of the Ohiphoon guard with a view to raiding. No raids, however, were actually committed, and the year passed without any disburbance. It is hoped that the assistance rendered to the Howlongs in the late scarcity will have the effect of restoring friendly relations between them and the British Government, and the presence of Lalruma and Lalthoma, two of the chiefs of that tribe, at the Durbar at Rangamati, appears to indicate a desire on the part of the tribe to abandon their former attitude of distrust, if not of open hostility. A further indication also of the growth of this better feeling is afforded by the fact that 130 Howlong families have settled down, and are jooming within the frontier. The relations of Government, however, with this tribe can never be entirely cordial as long as the Lahawk captives remain unreleased. The Howlong chief, Saipooea, by whom they were carried off, did not attend the durbar, nor did his brother, Lalova, who was engaged in negotiations with the Shindus; but the other two chiefs agreed to endeavour to ascertain where the captives (who are, it appears, no longer in Saipooea's possession) now actually are, and to effect their release if possible. Though this promise was given in the end of

in British India, and it is in connection with these properties that the chief inconvenience resulting from this ruling may be expected to arise. Being an independent Prince, no cases can be brought against him in any of the courts in British India without the consent of Government, to whom constant references will have to be made. Again, all cases in which the Maharajah is sued can, if he is held to be an independent Prince, be tried only by the District Judge; and the Judge of Tipperah, in whose district almost all such suits will be brought, will thus have his work, already sufficiently heavy, very much increased. In order to remove these difficulties a recommendation has recently been made to the Government of India that section 433 of the Code of Civil Procedure should be so amended as to allow of the Maharajah being treated as an ordinary zemindar so far as his possessions in British India are concerned. In order to enable the Maharajah to institute suits in British courts, it was necessary that he should have an agent; and one has accordingly been recently appointed by Government under section 432 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Social movements.

In consequence of a movement for raising the status of certain persons, and amongst others the Maharajah, as Hindus, which was set on foot about the end of the year 1880-81, the Maharajah lost much of the respect of his people, and was also put to considerable expense. The question is not now exciting so much attention as it previously did, and the Maharajah has wisely determined not to spend any more money in connection with it, and it is hoped that the matter, which appears to have been ill-advised from the outset, will not be revived.

Family affairs, &c.

During the year, in consequence of a severe domestic bereavement, the health and spirits of the Maharajah became seriously affected, and a change of scene for a time was considered desirable. A visit to Benares was accordingly arranged, and carried out with considerable benefit to the Maharajah, who returned improved in health and in a much less despondent state than he had been in when he left Agartala. He was accompanied by his two younger sons, and the opportunity thus afforded them of seeing many other parts of India may, it is hoped, tend to enlarge their minds and conduce eventually to broader and more enlightened views in the administration of the Tipperah State. In the Maharajah's absence the administration was carried on by a Council, with the Jubraj as president. The arrangement worked well. During the year the Maharajah sustained a heavy loss in the death of his first wife, a lady who had much influence over her husband and always exercised it for good. The Prime Minister, Thakur Dina Bandhu, the nephew of the Maharajah, also died. The latter's place has been filled by Thakur Dhananjoy Deb, another member of the Maharajah's own family.

Administrative arrangements.

The magisterial officers of Agartala, Udaipur, Kailashar and Bilania moved about in the interior of their jurisdictions, but the chief executive officers appear to have done little in this direction. The advantages of annual tours in the interior are very great, and the Assistant Political Agent did well in bringing the matter to the notice of the Prime Minister. The latter's duties undoubtedly require his presence for far the largest portion of his time at Agartala, but he should be able, without detriment to them, to make periodical excursions into the interior, and see for himself the condition and wants of the inhabitants. A Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, vested with the powers of a Munsif, has been stationed at Bilania. This arrangement has benefited the people of the sub-division, and it is hoped that it may prove financially a success, as it is expected that not only will he be able to realize fees and fines, but that the establishment of the office will lead to a permanent increase of the land and forest revenue within its jurisdiction. The post of District Superintendent of Police, which was created two years ago, apparently without necessity, has now been abolished. The Magistrate of Agartala is performing the duties connected with that post in addition to his own, and finds no difficulty in doing so. A new post has been created by the appointment of a Private Secretary, but as the officer selected for the post was already in the Maharajah's service, no increase of expenditure will be involved. The

Maharajah insists on all papers and records passing through his hands, and an efficient Private Secretary hould therefore be of considerable assistance to him. No successor has bee appointed in the place of the late Manager of the estates in Tipperah, whse services were dispensed with in 1881-82, as the Durbar does not consid the appointment of such an officer necessary. The present management ofhese estates seem, however, to be anything but satisfactory, and some better ranrements must be made before any improvement can be looked for.

Rainfall.—Crops.—Condition of the people, &c.

There was a slight incree in the amount of rain which fell during tl year, the amount being 83·75 inches as compai with 79·9 during the previous year. The rainy season, however, commed earlier and lasted later than usual. The outturn of the principal food-crops s nevertheless about the average, while the oil-seeds yielded a good hat. The failure was in the cotton-crop, which, in consequence of heavy rai d high winds in the latter part of September damaging the capsules, wo per cent. below an average crop. The year was less healthy thar se immediately preceding it, the principal diseases being small-pox, fe nd diarrhœa, but the mortality was not great. The price of rice, both that best sort and of common rice, rose slightly, as did also the price of wheat. ices of all these commodities were, however, considerably below the averag e for the three years preceding 1881-82. There was a slight reduction i rice of gram. There was a fall also in the price of salt from Rs. 5 to Rs. er maund. The rise in the price of rice was due to the increased demar commodity, the exportation of which w m outside the State for that people of Hill Tipperah are sellersin, the il 1877, prohibited. As the of them, though it must affect prejudic price is a benefit to most them who are not cultivators of, or ts dealer interests of those among the general condition of the people is satis is grain. On the whole respect for the ruler of the State, and They have an intuitive orders. They are for the most part of the ready obedience to his few, and those easily supplied, they are co nters, and their wants being

Immigration.

There was a considerable immigration h happy. the year, who s into Hill Tipperah during sion Whether own in the Bilania sub-divi- when assessed to the family-tax is uncertain l remain there permanently and the far greater uncertainty as to the ion, insecurity of property contracts in Hill Tipperah than in British Is uance of trade and other distrust and suspicion thus engendered make ate apprehensions, and the the country. This is to be regretted, for nts hesitate to remain in lands which might be brought under the large tracts of cultivable State and to its inhabitants. Every endeav with advantage to the encourage those who may show an inclination ld be made therefore to permanently.

Coal trade, &c..

It has been ascertained that coal actually in Kailashar. Th t far from the Khojai said to be good, is he quality of which is if the railway from Chittagong to Cachar and worked at present, but valuable. As the deposit in question is n pened, it will prove for a considerable part of each year, it w which is navigable work this coal than that which is said to exist ch less expensive to of Kailashar. The trade in Hill Tipperah, tho less accessible parts steadily increasing. A duty is levied on a num ery considerable, is varying rate, the average of which is about 25 p cles exported at a of the export trade during the past year was R valorem. The value on goods imported into Hill Tipperah. No duty is levied

Finance.

The finances of the State are still in a factory condition, and the expenses inc nnection with the caste question, as wel st of the journey to Benares, have added to the embarrassments o revenue of the year amounted to Rs. 2,29,961. Trajah. The total the failure of the cotton crop, was less by Rs. 7,8 consequence of preceding year, but exceeded by Rs. 20,486 the a income of the years preceding 1881-82. The principal sources of of the three land revenue

hills (Rs. 24,224), tax on forest
from plain lands (Rs. 29,394), family-tax i ds (Rs. 84,641) and royalty on
produce (Rs. 48,594), tax on cotton and oi tion in the State is most unsatis-
elephants (Rs. 9,562). The revenue admini a considerable portion of the
factory. The whole of the forest revenue a en sublet again. Thus, even
land revenue are farmed out, and the farmer aharajah would realize much
if the present payments were not increased, t ion than he can when there
more through an efficient system of khas co hose who pay two distinct
intervene in many cases between the State a t has been asserted that the
classes of middlemen. In defence of the sys venue because, if he collected
Maharajah is compelled to farm out much o is is so; the sooner the revision
through his officers, he would get nothing. onest and efficient officers for
of the establishment and the substitution undertaken, the better it will be
those on whom no reliance can be place system of direct management
for the Maharajah and for his people. officers, income which ought to
and direct collection is adopted under ted by persons who have no right
come to the State will continue to be a ng
to it.

The total number of criminal cas uted during the year was 575,
and 43 ending from the preceding year.
per for the year was thus 618, as
The tota 35 ear. The increase is attributed to
compared with 517 during the preced ts Considering that the population
the establishment of the court at Bil ase crime cannot be regarded as small.
numbers only about 100,000, the am s as portion of cases related to petty
It is satisfactory, however, that a l er, he whole number being only nine.
offences, the percentage of serious rage cent., were convicted. Sixty-five
Out of 707 persons tried, 472, or n the ere pending at the commencement
appeals were instituted, and three re dis ed, in 20 the original orders were
of the year. Of these cases, 3 w re re d, while 15 cases were pending at
confirmed, in 8 modified, and in he k minal cases in which British subjects
the close of the year. The num of a t 81-82 to 182 during the past year.
were concerned increased from 1 bjects ases, defendants in 121 and both com-
British subjects were complaina ing 7 here was an increase in the number of
plainants and defendants in 49 ers of pared with 236 in the previous year.
civil suits, the number being 2 take ased from Rs. 22,836 to Rs. 14,866.
The amount in dispute, howe decre court disposed of only 51·75 per cent.
It is estimated that on the av llate court only 14 out of a total of 35
of the civil cases before it. I n is no of. In 7 the original orders were
appeals, or 40 per cent., we men ; in the other 2 cases disposed of, the
confirmed, and in 5 they we and pellate court the results were good, 17
appeals were rejected. In rest. f 18 before the court. In 72 out of the
cases being disposed of out to 692 e concerned, they were plaintiffs, and in
87 cases in which British sular dis plaintiffs and defendants. The reason
8 fendants; in the remai reporte brought against British subjects is that
alleged for the small numb n 1881- execution in British India: hence he
the decree-holder canng kept o ess the defendant has property in Hill
obtains nothing from h one post-
Tipperah. self-supp ry satisfactory, and scarcely any improve-

Criminal and civil justice.

The state of educa s, to pay ook place, except in the case of the Sonamara
a peaceful ilashar schools, in which the sub-divisional
has bee number of schools increased from 27 to 31,
officers take a direct le still dre The Maharajah's sons are educated privately.
and the pupils from ss anxious saries in the State, at Agartala and Kailashar.
There are only two as treated during the year was only 4,327, as
The number of pat 2. The decrease is, however, said to be due
compared with 7, persons who were medically treated at old
to no register l ffice in the State, which is in connection with the
Agartala. Ther rting, and the Maharajah is no longer required,
Agency. It is now monthly sum for its support.
as he formerly wa ry, but one, and no disturbances took place on the frontier.
The year was e, no n free from raids since the Lushai Expedition in
Though the State ad the name "Lushai," and during the winter are
1871-72, the peop and uneasy.
always more or le

Schools, dispensaries, post-offices.

TRIBUTARY MEHALS OF ORISSA.

A most important question in connection with these Mehals, and their position with reference to the British Government, came under the consideration of Government during the past year. They have hitherto been regarded as forming a part of British India, to which, owing to its backwardness, it was not thought desirable to extend the laws in force in other parts of the empire. In a case referred to the High Court, however, a Full Bench decided, just before the commencement of the year, that the Mehals are not a part of British India. This decision, though not a unanimous one, raised the question of the actual status of the Mehals, and it was therefore considered advisable to address the Government of India on the subject, and to suggest the desirability of affirming by an authoritative declaration the fact of the inclusion of the States in British territory. In consequence of the death of the Maharajah of Mohurbhunj, that State, the largest in the Tributary Mehals, has been brought directly under Government management. The relations of the deceased Maharajah were desirous of having the management of the State placed jointly in the hands of his two surviving brothers; but for various reasons it did not appear to Government that the arrangement would be a desirable one. The appointment was first offered to the Native Assistant Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, and on his declining it a European officer was appointed Manager. Banki having been annexed to Cuttack from the 1st January 1882, there was one State less under the Superintendent's charge than during the preceding year. In the past year he had under direct management five States, two of which—Angul and the Khondmals—are Government estates, and the other three—Baramba, Dhenkenal, and Mohurbhunj—ward estates; the remaining 14 States were under the management of their respective Chiefs, subordinate to the Superintendent.

Tribute.

Excluding the two Government estates, the annual tribute due from the remaining 17 is Rs. 33,249. During 1881-82 Rs. 10,167 was collected in advance on account of the tribute for the past year, and during it all the balance was collected, and Rs. 10,620 was paid in, in addition, on account of the tribute for the current year.

Rainfall, crops, public health.

Excluding the figures for Keonjhur, which are evidently incorrect, the statistics show that there was an average rainfall of 61·8 inches in the six Mehals for which this information was given. Owing to an ample rainfall in October and November, and the fine weather in December and January, the rice crop was a good one, and the season was generally an extremely prosperous one. As regards health, the year was not so favourable. Epidemics of cholera and small-pox broke out in various parts. There was a very severe epidemic of the latter disease in the Mohurbhunj State, which lasted three months and carried off the Maharajah of that State and his Rani.

Civil and criminal justice.

There was a slight decrease in the number of civil, revenue, and miscellaneous cases instituted in the Mehals during the past year, as compared with the year which preceded it. The number, however, was still large, being 6,131 as compared with 6,367 in 1881-82. Of these, 3,924 cases, as compared with 2,661 cases in the preceding year, belonged to Dhenkenal. Had not Banki been annexed to Cuttack, the total for the Tributary Mehals would, no doubt, have exceeded that of the preceding year, in which the statistics for Banki were included. Including 1,647 cases pending at the commencement of the year, there were in all 7,778 cases for disposal during it. Of these, 181 were disposed of by the Superintendent, 464 by the Assistant Superintendent and 6,006 by tehsildars and managers. The remaining 1,127 were pending at the close of the year. Civil cases tried by the Rajahs of the different States are not entered in the statement, as the Superintendent is not supplied with the statistics regarding them. During the year 2,040 offences were reported. Some of the cases were abandoned, and some were declared false; the number of true cases being 1,543. Including cases pending from the preceding year, the total number of cases which came before the criminal courts during the past year was 1,594. In connection with these cases 2,585 persons were put upon their trial. Of these, 1,074 were convicted, 1,186 were acquitted, 79 died,

escaped, or were transferred, and the cases against 246 were pending at the close of the year. Of the persons who escaped, 46 escaped from the Mohurbhunj Jail about the time of the Maharajah's death. As this was the time when the epidemic of small-pox was raging in that State, the escapes were, no doubt, facilitated by relaxation in the vigilance of the guard. There had been a large increase in the number of criminal cases during the year 1881-82. The number of cases during that year was 2,165, while the number of cases reported and brought to trial during the past year only amounted to 1,484. This decrease is satisfactory, though it is in part attributable, no doubt, to the exclusion of Banki, in which Mehal 349 criminal cases occurred during 1881-82. The results of the appeals, both civil and criminal, were satisfactory. In civil and revenue cases there were 70 appeals. Of these, the original orders were confirmed in 36 cases, in 3 the appeals were rejected summarily, in 8 dismissed for default, in one case the order was modified, and in one it was reversed; 9 cases were remanded and 12 were pending at the close of the year. Out of 31 criminal appeals, the original orders were upheld in 23, modified in one, and reversed in 5 cases; one appeal was rejected and one only was pending at the end of the year.

Forest reserves.

Some progress has been made in the arrangements for introducing a system of forest conservancy into such parts of the Tributary Mehals as are under direct management. An officer was engaged in examining and marking out the tracts in Angul which are to be formed into forest reserves. The examination has shown that it is worth while to preserve the forests, and the blocks selected are suitable for the purpose. The Khondmal forests, as well as the forests in Mohurbhunj and Dhenkenal, remain to be examined, and it may be possible to depute an officer from the Forest Department to undertake the work during this cold season.

Communications.

But little was done during the year to improve the internal communications in the Mehals. A new road was, however, constructed in Dhenkenal, and a portion of another road, which runs through that State, was also completed. The completion of the portion of the latter road which runs through Atgur has been for the present delayed by the obstructiveness of the Rajah of that State. He objects to allow the road to pass through his territory because it is likely to benefit the Dhenkenal State, against which he has the alleged grievance that it, in the time of the Maharattas, absorbed a portion of Atgur. The opening of the Kumarkhole Pass, in the Khondmals, during the year will facilitate communication between the South and the Central Provinces. The two principal roads in the Mehals which run from Cuttack to Sumbulpore are not in good condition. They are below flood-level, and are neither metalled nor bridged; they have no side drains, and are impassable during the greater part of the rains. Bridging and metalling these roads would, no doubt, be very costly; but something might be done towards raising them sufficiently to keep them open for traffic throughout the year.

Education.

There was a very satisfactory increase in the number of schools during the past year. Excluding the figures for Banki, the number of schools was 920 in 1881-82 as compared with 1,004 in 1882-83, the number of pupils being 11,878 and 12,576 in these years respectively. Middle English secondary schools increased from 3 to 4, and vernacular schools of the same class from 7 to 8. Upper primary schools increased from 46 to 52, and lower primary schools from 853 to 928. There is only one girls' school in the Mehals, established by the Cuttack Baptist Mission, at Chhagan in Atgur. Female education is not, however, limited to this school, as girls read in some of the boys' schools. The Mehals are divided into four educational circles, each of which is in charge of a sub-inspector. Inspecting pundits are also in some cases employed. The total cost of the schools in the Mehals was Rs. 59,331, of which Rs. 7,724 was contributed by Government.

Postal arrangements.

The postal arrangements continue to work satisfactorily. Every State is now in communication with Cuttack. The Chiefs are required to contribute only to the cost of the post-office establishments and contingencies, as the office receipts are sufficient to

pay for the runners, and the monthly sum paid by the chiefs was accordingly reduced from Rs. 250 in 1880-81 and Rs. 159 in 1881-82 to Rs. 145 during the past year.

Angul.

During the year preceding that to which the report relates, the collections in Angul did not amount to the demand. The results, however, during the past year were much better. Not only was the whole demand on account of land revenue, which, including arrears, amounted to Rs. 36,072, realized, but Rs. 781 on account of the current year's demand were also collected. Life tenures, amounting in area to 30,073 acres, were at the last settlement granted to their holders either rent-free or at half rent. The death of some of the grantees has rendered the re-assessment of their holdings necessary, and out of 22,126 acres which have already been re-assessed or have become liable to re-assessment, the holders of 14,000 acres have died within the last three years This materially increased the amount of work to be done; and there being at the end of the past year 34 cases relating to lands comprising 13,240 acres to be disposed of, an increase of establishment has been sanctioned.

Outbreak in Kalahandi in the Central Provinces.

Shortly before the commencement of the year, a serious rising among the Khonds of Kalahandi, a State in the Central Provinces adjoining Boad, was reported to Government, and the District Superintendent of the Gurjhat police was ordered to the frontier, so as to be in readiness in the event of any attempt on the part of the Khonds of the Gurjhats, or of the Khondmals, to join those of Kalahandi. The original cause of the outbreak was shortly this:—The Rajah of Kalahandi, who had oppressed and endeavoured to break up the Khond clans, having died, an adopted son was chosen to succeed him. Another of his sons who had been previously adopted, but whose adoption had been annulled, was a rival claimant, and on being superseded a leading man of his faction, by persuading the Khonds that they should try to recover their ancient rights, successfully incited those in the north-east part of the State, which borders on the Tributary Mehal of Boad, to rise. They rose and plundered a number of villages, but subsequently were induced to restore a portion of the plunder, and it was hoped that matters would settle down. While, however, enquiries were being made by the authorities of the Central Provinces into the claims of the Khonds, a more serious outbreak took place, in which the Khonds murdered a large number of Kultias. A police-officer who, before the second outbreak, had been sent forward with additional men, crossed the frontier with a police force, entered Kalahandi, and lent the authorities assistance in quelling the outbreak and arresting a number of the ringleaders in the murders which had been committed. He remained in Kalahandi till July, when the necessary arrangements having been completed by the authorities in the Central Provinces, his presence was no longer required, and he and the police were withdrawn. No attempt was made by the Khonds within the frontier to join the insurgents in Kalahandi.

Dhenkenal.

The minor Chief of Dhenkenal was during the past year a resident of Cuttack, where under the supervision of a tutor he is being educated in the Ravenshaw College. The total demands on account of land revenue and other demands in the Dhenkenal State were Rs. 2,11,000. Of this amount, excluding Rs. 2,020 collected in advance, Rs. 2,02,683 was collected and Rs. 1,435 remitted, the balance at the close of the year being Rs. 6,882. The smallness of the balance uncollected at the close of the year reflects credit on the management. There were 64 prisoners in the Dhenkenal Jail at the commencement of the year, and during it 138 were admitted and 162 were released, 40 remaining in confinement at its close. The total expenditure on the jail was Rs. 2,227. The State will remain under direct management for only three years longer, as on the expiration of that period the minor Chief will attain his majority.

Baramba.

Satisfactory progress has been made in the new settlement in Baramba: the measurements have been completed, and the work of assessment is now going on. In consequence of the state of affairs in Duspulla, and the want of cordial relations between the Chief of that State and his dewan, the dewan of Baramba was transferred to that State, his place being taken by the dewan of Duspulla.

The total demand for the year was Rs. 28,773. Of this Rs. 18,109 was collected and Rs. 384 was remitted, leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 10,280. The largeness of this amount is due to the fact that the State accounts had not been properly kept and the people had not been accustomed to pay with regularity, and hence some indulgence had to be shown to them; there is, however, much room for improvement. All the old debts which existed when the State came under direct management have been paid off, and one-half of the sum of Rs. 10,000 which was borrowed at a moderate rate of interest for their liquidation has also been refunded.

Mohurbhunj.

As stated above the Maharajah of Mohurbhunj died during the year from small-pox. He was a liberal and enlightened Chief, and his death is much to be deplored. Almost every member of his family also was attacked by the disease, but all recovered, with the exception of the Maharani and her sister. Besides Mohurbhunj proper, the State possesses zemindaries in Balasore and Midnapore. Those in the former district are small, and are under the general manager of the State. The zemindary of Nyabassan in Midnapore is, however, an extensive and important one, and it has been decided to leave it under the Collector of Midnapore, at least until settlements have been concluded and a rent-roll prepared.

Atmullick.

The administration of the Atmullick State was very satisfactory. This is one of the poorest and most sparsely populated of the Tributary Mehals; but notwithstanding the smallness of the means at his disposal, the Rajah manages to carry on the administration of it successfully. He is described as being active, intelligent and industrious; and as he personally supervises every department, his people are happy and contented.

Boad.

The administration of the affairs of the Boad State had not been satisfactory, and the appointment of an efficient dewan had been recommended. This suggestion was, however, not acted on during the past year. It is satisfactory to learn that although a new dewan was not appointed there was nevertheless an improvement in the administration: the Rajah took more interest in the work; there were fewer complaints against the administration, and work was disposed of with less delay. It is hoped that the improvement may continue, and that the Rajah will also gradually pay off the debts in which he is still involved.

Duspulla—Hindole.

The change of managers in Duspulla has already been alluded to. Since the interchange of managers the administration in this State has worked smoothly. The Rajah is still in debt to the amount of above Rs. 11,000. Out of a demand of Rs. 23,119 in Hindole, Rs. 22,935 were collected during the year, only the small balance of Rs. 184 being unrealized at its close. This speaks well for the management, especially when it is found at the same time that the people appear to be contented, and that complaints are much less frequent than formerly.

The Maharajah of Keonjhur continued to administer his State in a just and liberal manner. The relations which exist between him and his people are all that could be desired. Important criminal and civil cases are heard by the Maharajah personally, the criminal cases being disposed of by him, unless it is necessary to commit them, in which case they are finally disposed of by the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals. The postal line kept up by the Maharajah between Keonjhur and Bhuddruck is said to be very slow, and the runners under little or no control, and the desirability of either making over the line to the Imperial Postal Department, paying any deficit till the line can pay itself, or of making it over to be included in the Gurjat post, has been suggested to the Maharajah.

Nilgiri.

The state of affairs in Nilgiri was far from satisfactory. The Rajah, though intelligent, is an unscrupulous and exacting landlord, and hence complaints of oppression are by no means of rare occurrence. The services of Baboo Bholanath Das, a Sub-Inspector of Schools, have recently been lent to the Rajah. His services as dewan will, it may be hoped, tend to the establishment of a more effective administration, and of a more cordial relationship between the Rajah and his

people. A disturbance has, however, recently arisen in the State, owing to the Rajah having adopted a son of the late Chief of Mohurbhunj to the exclusion of a son of his own brother, whom he, it is alleged, had previously adopted.

CHOTA NAGPORE TRIBUTARY MEHALS.

Rainfall, crops, public health.

The rainfall in the States was not only, as during the previous year, abundant, but it appears to have been more evenly distributed, and to have fallen at times of the year when it was most required. Rain-gauges are now kept in Sirgoojah, Gangpore and Jushpore, and the rainfall registered in these States respectively during the past year was 66 inches, 60·59 inches and 52·93 inches. In Sirgoojah some damage, apparently not very serious, was done to the crops by hailstorms. The outturn on the whole was, however, good; and in Jushpore both high and low land paddy and cotton turned out well, and there was an abundant harvest of pulses. Want of rain at the proper season in Changbhakar and Gangpore caused the outturn of the crops in those States to be poor. The general health of the people was good. Fever in Gangpore and an outbreak of small-pox in Changbhakar formed the exceptions to the general rule. Vaccination operations were carried on in Sirgoojah, Jushpore and Gangpore, and during the past year 21,430 children were vaccinated, the operation being successful in 18,922, or 88·2 per cent. of the cases. The material condition of the people, who are very primitive, and have few wants, seems on the whole to be fairly good.

Education.

There has been no improvement during the past year in educational matters in the States, and they are in a very backward condition. The attendance at the Disrampore school fell from 40 to 32, while the attendance at the Jushpore-ugger school in Jushpore has fallen to about 12. The small results are due artly to a want of interest on the part of the Chiefs and partly to the ndifference displayed by the people themselves.

Civil and Criminal Justice.

Including five cases pending from 1881-82, there were 22 cases for disposal by the Commissioner. Of these, 13 were disposed of and one was pending at the close of the year. There were five appeals of all kinds from the decisions of the Chiefs, of which one was pending at the commencement of the year. The original orders were confirmed in two cases; in one they were reversed; one case was remanded, and the fifth was pending at the close of the year. Against the orders of the political Chiefs of Seraikella and Khursowan, from whose orders appeals lie to the Commissioner through the Deputy Commissioner of Singbhoom, there were 22 appeals including one pending from the preceding year. Of these 15 were disposed of, the orders in seven being upheld and in eight reversed. The other seven were pending at the close of the year. There were 24 persons committed to the sessions, and of these 18, as compared with 14 out of 18 in 1881-82, were convicted. The number of persons fined during the past year was 335 as compared with 362 in the preceding year; there was a small decrease in the number fined, while the total amount of the fines inflicted was only Rs. 2,930 as compared with Rs. 4,157 in 1881-82. Of this amount Rs. 1,993 were realized, and Rs. 937 were outstanding at the close of the year. There was a decrease in the number of criminal cases during the year, the number having fallen from 1,057 cases, in which 1,832 persons were implicated in 1881-82, to 661 cases and 1,062 persons during the past year. The number of persons put on their trial during the year was 1,070, including eight persons against whom charges were pending from the preceding one. Of these 590 were convicted and 447 were acquitted or discharged, 12 escaped, 2 died, and the cases against the remaining 19 were pending at the close of the year. There were 8 cases of murder and 2 of culpable homicide, as compared with 10 and 3 respectively in 1881-82, while the number of cases of grievous hurt rose from 3 in that year to 20 in 1882-83. Dacoities rose from 11 in 1881 to 27 during the past year. The majority of these offences were committed by the Korwas of Sirgoojah. On the other hand, cases of house-breaking decreased from 89 in 1881-82 to 37 during the past year, and cases of receiving stolen property to 14, as compared with 36 in 1881-82. To the total number of cases must, however, be added 132 which actually occurred during the past year, though they were not enquired into

until after its close. The number of persons in the several jails at the commencement of the year was 134, and during it 254 were admitted. Of the total of 388 prisoners, 257 were released during the year, 7 died, 19 escaped and 105 prisoners were in the jails at the close of the year. The total number of civil suits and execution cases for disposal during the year was 438 and 97, including 146 and 24 respectively pending from the preceding year; 393 civil suits and 73 execution cases were disposed of, leaving 45 of the former and 24 of the latter pending at its close. Of the 292 civil suits instituted during the past year, as compared with 303 instituted during 1881-82, 68 were for the recovery of bond debts, 36 for the recovery of rent, 28 for the price of property, 26 for verbal debts, 26 for the recovery of property, 15 for goods, 13 for marriage expenses, and the rest were of other kinds. The number of accidental deaths which occurred during the year, excluding 14 cases of suicide, was 301, as compared with 294 accidental deaths and 20 cases of suicide during 1881-82. Of the 301 deaths, 59 were caused by drowning, 26 by fire, 43 persons were killed by wild animals, 128 by snake-bite, 15 by falls from trees, 14 were killed by lightning, and the remaining deaths were due to other causes.

Sirgoojah.

The Sirgoojah State, which had been under the direct management of the Commissioner, was made over to the Rajah on his attaining his majority in June 1882. The administration of the State during the year was generally good, the Rajah took an interest in the affairs of his State and was assisted by his dewan, Moulvi Jaffir Ali Khan, formerly the assistant manager during the Rajah's minority. Considerable trouble was caused during the year by the dacoities committed by the Korwas. These people, living in hills which are very difficult of access, and being disposed to fight, proved too strong for the police of the State, who failed to arrest them. Emboldened by success their crimes became gradually of a more heinous character, and for theft of grain or robbery of travellers was substituted dacoity, and subsequently village dacoity with murder. A detachment of the Lohardugga police was sent with an Assistant Commissioner and a District Superintendent to endeavour to arrest the men and stop the dacoities, and they have been partially successful and further repressive measures are in contemplation. The number of criminal cases which occurred in Sirgoojah during the past year was 309, and 335 persons were concerned in the cases, and 89 cases not included in the above figures actually occurred during the year, though they were not enquired into until after its close. The total value of property stolen was Rs. 5,070, as compared with Rs. 2,946 in 1881. A great part of the increase was due to the increase of the value of property stolen in dacoities, the value of such property having risen from Rs. 511 in 1881-82 to Rs. 2,435 during the past year, and of this only property to the value of Rs. 10 was recovered. The number of civil suits instituted during the year was 104, and 36 were pending from the preceding year. Of the total 140, 117 were disposed of, and 23 were pending at the end of the year. Only two execution cases were instituted during the year, one of which was disposed of. Of the civil suits, 26 were for the recovery of property, 15 for the recovery of its price, 12 for verbal debts, 10 for bond debts, 10 for marriage expenses, and the rest on other accounts.

Oodeypore.

There was a marked improvement in the administration of affairs in Oodeypore, where the Rajah remained almost all the year. He greatly improved the bazar of Rabcob, built a new jail, began a house for himself, and displayed an active interest in his work and in the improvement of the country under his rule.

The conduct of the Rajahs of Jushpore and Gangpore in the administration of their States was most praiseworthy, and the administration of all the States as a general rule was satisfactory during the past year. The tribute due from the different States was realized in full during the year, as well as the portion of the tribute due from Oodeypore which was outstanding at the close of the previous year.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Surveys.

STATEMENT E—1, Fiscal, shows approximately the field work executed by professional survey parties in the Lower Provinces during the season 1882-83.

Statement E—2, Fiscal, shows the work performed by non-professional parties up to the 31st March 1883.

Midnapore surveys.

The revision of the survey in Midnapore still continues. Fourteen Government estates were measured. The Mahalwar chak measurement of 145 villages was tested; twenty-one boundary disputes and 4,667 other cases were disposed of; and eleven village and four estate registers were completed and 19 village and 16 estate registers translated. The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 29,903, against Rs. 29,810 in the previous year.

The creation of the new district of Khulna necessitated some village demarcation work in the 24-Pergunnahs, and this is now well advanced.

Patna Division.

The survey of the estates bordering on the Ganges in the Patna Division in correspondence with the cadastral surveys in the North-Western Provinces was completed at a cost of Rs. 2,534.

Dearah survey.

The dearah survey operations in Eastern Bengal were continued through the Backergunge and Noakholly estuaries to the Bay of Bengal, and the survey in the upper reaches of the Brahmaputra, extending over a length of nearly 47 miles of country, was completed. The area surveyed during the year (ending 30th September 1882) was 3,002 square miles, 1,124 square miles of which, however, were water. Besides the above, a cadastral survey was made of 39 estates of recusant proprietors, yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 10,260. The surplus lands discovered by the survey amounted to 92½ square miles, which will, it is expected, yield nearly Rs. 45,000 of revenue. The accuracy of the dearah survey during the year was quite up to the high standard previously attained. The total cost of the work was Rs. 33,498, against Rs. 46,009 last year.

Khorda survey.

Some survey work was done, consisting of (1) re-survey of portions of the northern block, and correction of errors; (2) completion of the cadastral plans of the southern block, and (3) preparation of the report on the survey of the Banpur Mâls. The question of the boundary between Khorda in Bengal and Gumsar in Madras could not be disposed of during the year. The cost of survey and settlement operations during 1882-83 amounted to Rs. 74,316, against Rs. 1,07,126 in 1881-82.

Ghatwali and other service lands.

In the Bankura district 181 villages, containing the lands of 428 ghatwals, covering an area of 43 square miles, were demarcated and surveyed. The maps of 237 villages were completed, and 235 boundary disputes and 204 other cases were disposed of. The cost incurred was Rs. 9,706, against Rs. 9,005 in the previous year. In the Manbhoom district 32 ghatwali tenures were demarcated, 588 disputed boundaries were decided, 91 miscellaneous cases were disposed of; and boundary marks in 116 tenures, containing 117 ghatwals, were completed at a cost of Rs. 5,480. The measurement of ghatwali lands in Manbhoom was much impeded by disputes between zemindars and ghatwals as to the limits of ghatwali and rent-paying lands. The progress in the construction of boundary pillars was also greatly retarded by the ghatwals, who would not readily collect materials.

Settlements.

THE following statement exhibits the results of settlement work in these provinces during the last two years:—

Year.	Original Settlements.		Re-settlements.			Summary Settlements.			Settlements pending at close of year.	
	Number.	Net revenue.	Number.	Net revenue.	Increase.	Number.	Net revenue.	Increase.	Number.	Estimated revenue.
		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
1881-82 ..	560	70,130	2,889	2,04,279	19,591	124	58,682	6 218	6,293	13,70,564
1882-83 ...	260	38,472	1,023	1,23,989	31,968	56	27,331	1,032	6,506	7,78,548

The net increase of revenue effected by these settlements amounted to Rs. 71,472, or about 54 per cent. on the gross expenditure incurred. The total outlay was Rs. 1,32,126, against Rs. 1,70,122 in the previous year.

In the Burdwan, Rajshahye, Patna, Bhagulpore, and Chota Nagpore Divisions the settlement work of the year was unimportant. In the Dacca and Presidency Divisions it was more extensive, but raised no questions of difficulty. In the Sunderbuns it was discovered that several engagements for the cultivation of waste lands had been thrown up, and an enquiry into the causes of these relinquishments seemed to indicate that there had been deterioration of the soil from natural causes beyond the control of the settlement-holders, which called for a revision of the rules for assessing waste lands in that district. The point is being specially looked into, as it is very desirable that no avoidable obstacle should be thrown in the way of reclamation enterprise in the Sunderbuns.

In Chittagong, defects have been discovered in the noabad settlement operations, necessitating a revision of that work, which was reported to have been satisfactorily concluded in the early part of 1882. The questions raised are very intricate, and they have an important bearing on portions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and are being considered in that connection. The settlement operations of recent years in the districts of Noakholly and Tipperah have also been found defective, and are being enquired into.

In the Chota Nagpore Division the settlements of Government estates have been unimportant from a financial point of view.

Khorda estates.

In Orissa the chief settlement work was in the Khorda estate, in which, however, matters were impeded by the suspense which prevailed regarding the action of Government on the petitions presented against the settlement by the Khorda ryots. As the orders now passed on that petition are to some extent favourable to the claims of the ryots, it is expected that the settlement will be concluded without further difficulty or delay. The survey and settlement of Khorda has been a most extensive undertaking. It was entered upon in 1875, and the cost has been heavy. But what has been secured is of great value. A minute survey has been made of over a thousand square miles of country, and the area has been mapped on scientific principles with a degree of accuracy sufficient for all purposes. Papers have been prepared in which rights are recorded with an elaborate minuteness of detail; checks and counter-checks of every description have been applied to avoid errors; and principles regulating the relations between the Government and its tenants have been finally settled. The work is being done once for all, and nothing approaching this scale will be required at future re-settlements, arrangements having been made to keep the settlement records corrected up to date.

Dearah settlements.

A very small amount of settlement work was done during the year owing to the Superintendent being employed for some months on special duty in connection with the preparation of Tables of Rates.

Government Estates.

THE term "Government estates" is applied to estates or portions of estates which, belonging to Government, are under direct official management, and to estates the property of private parties which are, owing to the recusancy of the proprietors, managed by Government. The term is used in a different sense in the following remarks to that in which it is used in the Chapter dealing with Land Revenue. In the latter Chapter it is confined to estates or portions of estates which are the exclusive property of Government. Hence there is some apparent inconsistency between the figures. There are 2,706 Government estates in these provinces, with an annual rental of Rs. 19,96,054; but many of these are not under direct management, some, for instance, being let out on farming leases, and of such no account can be furnished in this report.

During the last year there were 1,061 estates* under direct management, with an annual rental of Rs. 26,27,360, and they were managed at a gross cost of Rs. 1,81,889. The charges for management were thus 6·9 per cent. on the rental, which must be deemed a moderate percentage, and one admitting of increase (should an improved system of management involve greater cost) without fear of exceeding that reasonable proportion which management charges should bear to income. The financial results of the management of the estates in each Division during the past year are exhibited in the following figured statement:—

* The Chittagong district is one vast network of Government estates, in number about 45,000. For convenience of management, however, these estates are divided into five circles, and each of those circles counts as one estate only in the text.

Division.	Number of estates.	Gross demand.	Current demand.	Collections.	Percentage on gross demand.	Percentage on current demand in 1882-83.	Percentage on current demand in 1881-82.	Cost of management.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				Rs.
Burdwan	80	11,22,065	5,43,847	7,65,653	67·3	140·7	51·6	59,837
Presidency	124	2,88,682	1,91,088	2,03,016	70·3	106·2	97·5	13,218
Rajshahye and Cooch Behar	145	5,13,340	4,25,827	4,27,699	83·3	100·4	105·1	27,442
Dacca	231	3,72,435	2,86,221	2,91,007	78·1	101·6	103·7	14,665
Chittagong	272	6,17,470	3,93,679	4,02,652	65·2	102·2	97·4	30,915
Patna	85	2,02,818	1,66,246	−1,62,135	79·9	97·5	104·1	14,091
Bhagulpore	62	1,35,694	98,216	1,16,130	85·5	118·2	112·4	6,436
Orissa	30	7,12,108	4,43,948	−4,14,362	58·1	93·3	88·9	13,949
Chota Nagpore	32	78,464	78,288	−77,566	98·8	99·0	101·6	1,346
Total, ...	1,061	40,43,076	26,27,360	28,60,220	70·7	108·8	89·2	1,81,889

It appears that in six Divisions out of nine the year's collections exceeded the current demand, while in the three Divisions in which the receipts fell short of it the outstanding balances were small. If the province be taken as a whole, the receipts were 108·8 per cent. on the current demand and 70·7 per cent. on the rental for the year *plus* arrears. These results compare favourably with those of preceding years; and they seem also to have been secured consistently with the redress of some long-standing grievances.

In the Burdwan Division the arrears were chiefly due from the Majnamutha and Jellamutha estates in Midnapore, but much progress has been made in removing the difficulties that have hitherto beset the management of these estates. The Presidency Division showed considerable arrears only in the 24-Pergunnahs; but out of an outstanding balance of Rs. 69,923 as much as Rs. 47,119 fell due after the year had closed, and the arrears seem therefore to have been mostly nominal. In the Rajshahye Division the collections were better than in the preceding year, and the balances outstanding

raise no point of special interest in any district except Julpigoree. In the Dacca Division also the collections exceeded the current demand, but there are still large arrears. These accrued chiefly in Backergunge, where the existence of a long chain of middlemen between the Government and the cultivators of the soil is found to militate against punctual realisations of rent. In the Chittagong Division the collections showed some improvement, but there is still much ground to be made up in the realisation of arrears. It has been explained that these arrears are chiefly due to the opposition excited by the action of settlement officers in registering on the rent-rolls nomad cultivators instead of the responsible reclaimers of the soil. This is a question which is receiving careful attention in connection with the Tenancy Bill. In the Patna, Bhagulpore, and Chota Nagpore Divisions the outstanding balances call for no special remarks, and in Orissa recent orders reducing the assessment on the Khoorda estate will, it is hoped, reconcile the ryots to the settlement that has been made.

For the management charges of Government estates, the following provision is made. Ten per cent. of the total collections on all the estates concerned is appropriated to meet the cost of their management and improvement, and is entered in the provincial accounts as a land revenue receipt. From the assets thus set apart, assignments are made by Government for expenditure on management proper, education, communications, and miscellaneous improvements, to the respective departments which deal with the expenditure for these purposes. Thus a sum equal to 7 per cent. of the collections of each year is placed at the disposal of the Board of Revenue for allocation to districts on account of management proper, including petty settlement work, and ½ per cent. for works of improvement. The remaining 2½ per cent. is assigned to education and roads, and with this the Board have no concern. As soon as the year's grant is placed at their disposal, the Board make the distribution according as the circumstances of the different districts demand.

The efforts hitherto made in the way of introducing improvements on Government estates cannot be said to have been of a systematic or extensive character, and little was done in this respect during the past year. The chief reason for past neglect in this matter is doubtless the fact that there has never been at the disposal of the Government a trained agency for the management of its estates, and this want will, it is hoped, be shortly supplied. Proposals have lately been submitted for the creation of an Agricultural Department in Bengal, and among the objects of that department will be the training of managers for Government and Wards' estates.

Wards' Estates.

THERE were during the year 117 wards' and 91 attached estates, or a total of 208 estates under the Board's control. This shows a decrease of ten estates (seven wards' and three attached estates) compared with the numbers in the preceding year. The discretionary power which the present law allows to the Court of Wards of declining to accept the charge of an estate which the Civil Court desires to entrust to it was exercised during the past year in six instances, the considerations which actuated the Court of Wards in refusing charge being either that the estates were too small or that they were involved in debt. In five cases the parties interested applied to the Court of Wards, and their applications were rejected for similar reasons.

The financial operations of the year may be thus summarized. The opening cash balance was Rs. 15,57,121, and the gross receipts amounted to Rs. 62,92,899. The gross expenditure was Rs. 61,11,442, and the net balance, therefore, Rs. 17,38,578. The investments, which were valued at Rs. 24,71,005 at the close of 1881-82, stood at Rs. 21,05,030 at the close of 1882-83, the reduction being due to the release of estates from the Court's control during the year.

The current demand of rent amounted to Rs. 52,73,981, and that of cesses to Rs. 3,46,057. The cost of management during the same period was Rs. 5,63,405, excluding certain items for repairs to buildings, and for surveys and settlements, which are not properly debitable to management proper. The management charges did not, therefore, exceed on the average the limit of 10 per cent.

The arrear demand of rent was Rs. 40,56,283 and of cesses Rs. 3,62,483. The current demand raised the gross amount of rent due to Rs. 93,30,264, and of cesses to Rs. 7,08,540. The total collections on account of rent were Rs. 51,36,121, or 97·3 per cent. on the current demand, while on account of cesses Rs. 3,25,730, or 94·1 per cent., were realised. The remissions on account of rent amounted to Rs. 5,25,427, and on account of cesses to Rs. 23,830. The outstanding balances of rent and cesses at the year's close were, therefore, Rs. 36,68,716 and Rs. 3,58,980 respectively. These are large arrears, but the results show some improvement on the preceding year, and it is expected that this improvement will become more marked as further progress is made in revising the rent-rolls and writing off bad debts.

The number of certificates filed during the year was 12,409, and there were 7,759 pending from the preceding year. The number disposed of was 13,400, and the number pending at the year's close 6,768, showing a diminution upon the corresponding figures for the preceding year.

The liabilities of wards' and attached estates include the claims of Government, those of superior landlords, and those of general creditors. Liabilities to Government consist of revenue and cesses, the former of which amounted during the year to Rs. 20,01,228 (including Rs. 1,10,530 arrears) and the latter to Rs. 5,08,700 (including an arrear of Rs. 69,787). Out of the revenue demand, Rs. 19,18,561 were realised, leaving a balance of Rs. 72,215, and out of the cess demand the realisations amounted to Rs. 4,58,082, leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 69,787. Since the close of the year these balances have been somewhat reduced.

The rent due to superior landlords amounted during the year to Rs. 3,94,390, one-third of which was arrears of previous years. The payments were only Rs. 2,64,529, and the year closed with an arrear balance, which was almost as large as the balance with which it opened. This result is not satisfactory and the attention of the Board of Revenue has been drawn to the matter.

The total debts due to other creditors amounted during the year to Rs. 41,84,874. Of this sum Rs. 5,24,217 were paid or reduced by compromise, and Rs. 36,60,657 remain due. The progress made in liquidating debts, though fair, was not so good as in the preceding year.

The expenditure incurred on improvements generally included sums of Rs. 34,478 and Rs. 16,252 for the support of schools and dispensaries respectively, Rs. 1,23,593 expended on repairing and maintaining the immoveable property of the estates, and Rs. 72,576 on landed improvements. These included such works as the construction and repairs of embankments and bunds for the protection of lands from inundation; the construction of channels, khals, and wells for the irrigation of lands; the excavation of new tanks and the clearance of old ones for the supply of good drinking-water; the introduction of new crops; the clearance of jungle; and the purchase of agricultural implements. The question of improvements on wards' estates is now receiving increased attention, and it is intended to do much more in this direction for the benefit of the estates than has hitherto been the case.

The Court's attention was specially drawn during the year to the necessity of prosecuting a systematic field survey, conjoined with the preparation of a record of rights, in all estates in which the circumstances were favourable to such operations. There is no measure more essential to the full development of any policy of agricultural improvement in Bengal than a detailed survey of estates, with a complete record of all rights upon the land; and whatever the practical difficulties may be, there can be no assurance of peace or progress till these measures have been carried out. Orders have been issued on the subject by the Board of Revenue which have the general approval of Government, and perseverance in the policy thus adopted, together with the enforcement in wards' estates of those principles of reform which have been prescribed for Government estates, will, no doubt, within a short period of time have their due beneficial effect in improving the condition of the tenantry and the value of the estates.

With regard to the education of the minors there has been no change in the system adopted since the abolition of the Calcutta Wards' Institution. The wards are now placed under private tutors or at colleges or schools, as near as practicable to their own homes. The reports received show that in most cases they are making satisfactory progress.

III.—PROTECTION.

Legislating Authority.

Legislating authority.

THE legislative authority in Bengal is the "Council of the Lieutenant-Governor for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations," which was established in 1862 by the Governor-General in Council, under the powers conferred on him by Section 44 of 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 67 (the Indian Councils Act). The Lieutenant-Governor is the President of the Council. He is empowered to nominate twelve Councillors, not less than one-third of whom must be non-official members, and their nomination is subject to the confirmation of the Governor-General. The authority of the Council extends over all the provinces, districts, and places which are administered by the local Government; but before any law comes into force, it must have received the assent of the Governor-General of India as well as of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The restrictions to the exercise of its powers are as follows:—

"It shall not be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, except with the sanction of the Governor-General previously communicated to him, to make regulations, or take into consideration any law or regulation for any other purposes next hereinafter mentioned, that is to say:—

"(1) Affecting the public debt of India, or the customs duties, or any other tax or duty now in force, and imposed by the authorities of the Government of India for the general purposes of such Government.

"(2) Regulating any of the current coin, or the issue of any bills, notes, or other paper-currency.

"(3) Regulating the conveyance of letters by the post office, or messages by the electric telegraph within the Presidency.

"(4) Altering in any way the Penal Code of India as established by Act of the Governor-General in Council, No. 45 of 1860.

"(5) Affecting the religion or religious rites and usages of any class of Her Majesty's subjects in India.

"(6) Affecting the discipline or maintenance of any part of Her Majesty's military or naval forces.

"(7) Regulating patents or copyright.

"(8) Affecting the regulations of the Government with foreign provinces or States.

"Provided always that no law, provision of law, or regulation which shall have been made by any such Lieutenant-Governor in Council, and assented to by the Governor-General in Council, shall be deemed invalid only by reason of its relating to any of the purposes combined in the above list."

A considerable part of the legislative enactments which affect Bengal still, therefore, proceeds from the Indian Legislature.

Course of Legislation.

THE work of the Legislative Council during the session of 1882-83 may be summarised as follows:—A measure which had been introduced shortly before the close of the preceding session was passed into law as Act I of 1883. Six new Bills were introduced, of which four passed through all their stages, and the remaining two are still pending. Leave was granted for the introduction of a seventh Bill, but no further step was taken in connection with it.

Act No. I of 1883, an Act to amend the Bengal Excise Act, 1878.

This measure was introduced and referred to a select committee in April 1882. Its object was to limit the possession by an unlicensed person of any exciseable article (other than liquors imported by sea and purchased for private consumption only) to the maximum quantity which can be sold at any one time by a licensed retail vendor. This had been the intention of the Legislature in passing the Excise Act, 1878, but the language of that enactment was not sufficiently comprehensive. Several amendments and additions were made in the Bill on the recommendation of the select committee. The most important of these were (1) the addition of a definition of the term "licensed vendor or manufacturer," (2) an amendment specifying certain minimum quantities of exciseable articles, the sale of which quantities shall constitute a retail sale, and giving the Board of Revenue power to fix larger quantities at its discretion, and (3) the addition of a section empowering the Government to lay down rules for the importation and bonding of exciseable articles manufactured in British India beyond the limits of the territory to which the Act extends. This Act received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 22nd January, and of the Governor-General on the 23rd February 1883.

Act No. II of 1883, an Act to amend the Calcutta Port Improvement Act, 1870.

The object of this Act was to empower the Calcutta Port Commissioners to construct a warehouse for the sampling and sale of tea. It received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 21st February, and of the Governor-General on the 29th March 1883.

Act No. III of 1883, an Act to authorize the making, and to regulate the working, of tramways in Bengal.

The Tramways Act, I of 1880, applies only to Calcutta. Proposals for the construction of tramways having been received from the local authorities of other places, Act III of 1883 was passed for the purpose of enabling the Government to sanction, and the local authorities or other persons to undertake the construction and maintenance of tramways in other parts of the province. It prescribes the procedure to be adopted in obtaining sanction, the manner of construction of tramways, the powers and rights of the promoters in respect of the use of roads, the rules as to fares and traffic, the penalties for offences, and other general conditions. This Act received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 26th March, and of the Governor-General on the 25th April 1883.

Act No. IV of 1883, an Act to amend the law relating to jute warehouse and fire-brigades.

The main objects of this Act were twofold: first, to promote economy and efficiency by requiring the Calcutta Commissioner of Police to maintain a fire-brigade for the town and suburbs of Calcutta and the municipality of Howrah; and second, to remedy the hitherto inequitable incidence of the cost of the fire-brigade, by providing that the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta, the Suburbs, and Howrah, after setting aside, to meet the cost of collection, 20

per cent. of the fees raised by them from licensed jute warehouses within their respective jurisdictions, shall pay the remaining 80 per cent. of such fees to the Calcutta Commissioner of Police for the maintenance of the fire-brigade. This Act received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 20th March, and of the Governor-General on the 4th May 1883.

Act No. V of 1883, an Act for the registration and control of porters and dandeewallahs in the Darjeeling and Kurseong Municipalities.

This Act was passed on account of numerous complaints of the misconduct and extortionate charges of the porters and dandeewallahs in Darjeeling. It divides the persons to whom it applies into two classes: (1) those engaged as monthly servants, or for a period exceeding 24 hours; (2) those working by the job, or by the day. The former are required to be licensed, and are liable to have their licenses withdrawn in case of proved misconduct. The provisions as to the second class proceed on the lines of the Hackney-Carriage Act. Coolies licensed to work by the day or by the job are bound to wear a badge, to carry a table of rates, to accept hire when called upon, not to demand more than the authorized rates, and to be sober and civil in behaviour. Failure to comply with these conditions involves the penalty of a fine, or imprisonment in default of payment of the fine. This Act received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 26th March, and of the Governor-General on the 9th May 1883. Since the close of the year under review further instructions have been received from the Secretary of State, and an amending Act will probably be introduced in the course of the ensuing session.

A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to Municipalities.

This Bill has been introduced with the object of modifying and extending the existing law relating to municipalities in the mofussil, in such a manner as to give the people a larger share in the management of their own affairs. The principal features of the Bill are as follows:—(1) The distinction made in the present Act (V of 1876) between first and second class municipalities, stations, and unions, is abolished; (2) it is provided that two-thirds of the Commissioners of a municipality shall, as a rule, be elected by the rate-payers, and the remaining one-third be nominated by the Government, and that the Chairman shall be either elected by the Commissioners or nominated by the Government; (3) provision is made for a system of supervision by some central authority in place of the control now exercised by district officers; (4) the principle is adopted that the Commissioners of an elective municipality may be expected to exercise their powers in accordance with the wishes, and in furtherance of the interests, of the general body of rate-payers; and that consequently such enlarged powers of town conservancy and improvement as they desire to exercise should be freely conceded to them.

Leave to introduce this Bill was obtained on 16th December 1882, and on the 6th January 1883 the Bill was referred to a select committee. The committee presented a preliminary report and an amended Bill on 21st March. The following may be noted as the most important amendments that were suggested:—(1) that before the measure comes into force, the Government should publish a list of the municipalities to which it is to apply, and that all existing municipalities which are not included in that list should be merged in the jurisdiction of the rural local bodies to be created under the scheme of Local Self-Government; (2) that the privilege of electing two-thirds of the Commissioners, and also that of electing a Chairman (subject only to the sanction of the Government) should be conceded to all municipalities, save those specified in the first and second schedules of the Act, and that the Local Government should be empowered to remove any municipality from such schedules, but not to enter fresh names in them; (3) that the power should be reserved to the Local Government of making separate rules as to franchise for each elective municipality; but that the property-qualification should in no case be higher than is implied in the payment of rates to the amount of two annas per mensem (4) that the number of the Commissioners of a municipality should not be more than 30, or less than 9; (5) that when a rate is levied upon buildings, the value of any machinery contained in such buildings should not be included in the valuation, and if the cost of erecting the buildings can be ascertained, or estimated, the valuation should not exceed 7½ per cent. on such cost, together with a reasonable amount on account of ground rent.

On the 21st March 1883 the Bill as amended was ordered to be published, and the measure was referred back to the select committee for further consideration and report.

A Bill to extend the system of Local Self-Government in Bengal.

The object sought to be attained by this measure is that of giving the people of Bengal a substantial interest and responsibility in the administration of their own local affairs. With this view it has been proposed to establish—(1) Union Committees for the management of affairs of immediate interest to the villagers of an area to be called a Union; (2) Local Boards for the general control of the Union Committees within, and for the management of works and institutions affecting, a larger area denominated a Local Government Circle; and (3) a Central Board for the supervision and control of the local bodies. The Bill as originally introduced in Council provided that, except in certain cases to be specified by the Central Board, the members of Union Committees should be elected. Two-thirds of the members of the Local Board should also be elected, and the representation of minorities was safeguarded by reserving to the Central Board the right of appointing the remaining one-third. Rules were laid down as to the qualifications of candidates and electors. Union and Circle Funds were created, and provision made as to the purposes to which they may be applied. Each Local Board was empowered to elect its Chairman, subject to the approval of Government. The Bill prescribes the mode of transacting business, submitting accounts and returns, and the functions of the local bodies with regard to works of conservancy, sanitation, education, and general improvement. Joint Boards or committees may be formed for the prosecution of works affecting two or more Circles or Unions, and the Local Boards of each district are required to delegate members to an annual conference at which the rate of the district road-cess for the year shall be fixed. A chapter is devoted to the supervision and control to be exercised by the Central Board and by the district officers.

Leave to introduce this Bill was obtained on the 20th January 1883. The Bill was introduced on 24th February, and was referred to a select committee on the 10th March. Since the close of the year, however, the proposal to appoint a Central Board has been disallowed, and it has been found necessary to recast the Bill.

Estates' Partition Act Amendment Bill.

On the 16th December 1882 leave was given to introduce a Bill to amend the Estates' Partition Act, 1876. No further step was taken with the measure up to the close of the session.

Police.

Amalgamation of the municipal and the regular police.

THE most important change during the year was the amalgamation of the municipal with the regular police. Government having decided, in connection with the scheme of local self-government, on relieving all municipalities, except Howrah, and the town and suburbs of Calcutta, from all police charges, the municipal, the cantonment and the regular police were, in accordance with this policy, amalgamated, the entire cost of the force being borne by Government from the 1st April 1882. The increased charge to Government amounted to nearly Rs. 4,97,000. The effect of the amalgamation is to place the municipal police on a level with the rest of the force. It should also secure better men for town work, though it may possibly render the force less attractive, and keep good men from enlisting, as town work is more arduous and more responsible than general police duties. Already a difficulty is felt in large towns of getting men to remain in the force. At first they are ready enough to enlist, but the high price of labour soon induces them to seek more remunerative employment. The consequence is that constant changes occur in the force, and that raw and inefficient men have to be employed in the performance of duties which require training and experience. The subject is one which calls for consideration, and steps will have to be taken to prevent these constant changes. In order to remedy this evil, it may perhaps be found necessary to keep the police of the larger towns, particularly in Central and East Bengal, a separate body, while the police of smaller municipalities remain an integral part of the district force, and to give to the members of this special force higher salaries, with a view of inducing the men to remain in it.

Cost of the police.

The original budget grant for the Police Department for the year was Rs. 37,01,620, in which was included a grant of Rs. 1,65,370 for the police of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The grant was, however, in consequence of the amalgamation of the municipal and regular police, increased by a further sum of Rs. 4,96,929. The actual expenditure during the year was approximately Rs. 39,63,251, as compared with Rs. 36,86,559 in 1881. The strength of the regular force on the 31st December 1882, including the civil and frontier forces in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, but excluding the railway and the reserve police, the Howrah municipal police and the police employed temporarily in Orissa during the salt manufacturing season, was 77 superior officers, 3,480 subordinate officers and 19,405 constables. The cost of the police employed on purely police work was Rs. 26,15,202, as compared with Rs. 21,54,600 in 1881, the increase of Rs. 4,60,602 being due to the amalgamation of the municipal and cantonment police with the regular force. The total cost of this portion of the force on the average was 7·6 pies per head of the population, the cost being 8·4 pies per head in Bengal Proper including the Chittagong Hill Tracts, 8·4 pies in Orissa, 8·5 pies in Chota Nagpore and 6 pies in Behar. The following table shows

the proportion to area and to population of the men employed on purely police work:—

PROVINCES.	Number of police.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Proportion of police to area.	Proportion of police to population.
Bengal (inclusive of the Chittagong Hill Tracts)	11,767	76,375	34,922,970	1 to 5·1	1 to 2,548
Behar	6,134	44,139	23,127,104	1 to 6·5	1 to 3,452
Orissa	1,414	9,762	3,789,694	1 to 5·7	1 to 2,256
Chota Nagpore	1,424	26,966	4,225,989	1 to 17·7	1 to 2,774
Total ...	20,739	1,57,242	66,065,757	1 to 7·5	1 to 3,185

It having been found that the Sonthals did not appreciate the motives of Government in allowing the police administration to be carried on through their headmen, it was thought that advantage might be taken of this fact to break up the feeling of clanship amongst them, which had been the cause of disturbances in the district, and at the same time to improve the administration in Sonthalia by re-establishing the regular police system. During the past year this system was accordingly introduced into all the sub-divisions in the Sonthal Pergunnahs with two exceptions. The old village police and village officers have not, however, been abolished, but they now work in subordination to the Police Department. Since the close of the year the general introduction of the scheme for improving the status of investigating officers by the substitution of 5th grade sub-inspectors for head constables at important outposts has been sanctioned, and the batta allowance granted on account of the dearness of provisions to constables in the two lowest grades in the reserves in Midnapore, Hooghly, Howrah, the 24-Pergunnahs and Moorshedabad has been extended to men of the same grades in the reserve in the district of Jessore.

Working of the Chowkidari Act.

It had long been felt that the entire chowkidari system required revision. A Commission was accordingly appointed to enquire into the matter. The Commission, after visiting various districts and making all the necessary enquiries, submitted a full report on the subject, which is now under the consideration of Government, and will probably lead to considerable alterations and improvements.

Railway and frontier police.

The strength of the railway police was the same as during the preceding year, and the strength of the frontier force also remained unaltered. Partly on account of the weakness of the latter force, and partly owing to rumours of threatened raids, 10 officers and 96 men were sent from various districts in Bengal to the Hill Tracts, and remained there until the rainy season was over. On a subsequent demand for reinforcements, as the force had fallen, owing to casualties, below its sanctioned strength, 6 officers and 124 men were sent.

State of education.

The percentage of the officers below the rank of sub-inspector who could read and write was lower than in 1881, the percentage having fallen in the case of head-constables from 82 to 80 per cent., and in the case of constables from 30 to 28. The decrease is attributed to the amalgamation, as the percentages amongst the municipal police were lower than those amongst the regular police. Many constables, however, can now read and write, as well as speak, English.

Casualties.

The number of casualties in the force during the past year amounted to 3,949, or 15·8 per cent. of the entire force, as against 2,222, or 11·25 in 1881. Of these 1·2 per cent. were due to retirement on pension or gratuity, as against 0·7 in 1881; 5·2 per cent. to resignations, as against 4·1; 3·4 per cent. were dismissed, as against 3·1; 2·4 died, as against 2 in the preceding year; 3 per cent. were discharged, as compared with 1·3; and 0·6 deserted, as compared with 0·05 in 1881. The increase under retirements is due to the fact that many of the old police completed during the past year the full term of service qualifying for pension. The death-rate was higher than during the preceding year, and exceeded the average death-rate amongst the entire

population, which was 2·04 during the past year. The death-rate was highest in Burdwan and Hooghly, in which districts it was 5·5 and 5·1 per cent. respectively, as compared with 3·54 and 2·47 per cent. for the entire population of those districts. No doubt the excess is in part explained by the fact that the registration of deaths in the force is complete, while the registration of deaths among the population is imperfect; but even allowing for this, the mortality is high. In the Hill Tracts of Chittagong intermittent fever, with the consequent enlargement of the spleen and lung diseases, were the most prevalent complaints. The medical officer has made proposals regarding the improvement of the hospitals and barracks, and has recommended warmer clothing and a more ample supply of drugs. Water-proof sheeting has been recently supplied to the men as a protection against inclement weather and night camping, and this arrangement will, it is hoped, be followed by a decrease in the number of cases of lung disease.

Punishments and rewards.

There was an increase in the number of punishments awarded during the year, as compared with 1881. The following table shows the numbers during the last two years:—

	Judicial convictions under the Penal Code.	Under Act V of 1861.	Departmental punishments.
1881	355	243	5,053
1882	381	300	6,997

The punishments were more numerous than in 1881, owing to the amalgamation of the forces; but while the percentage under the last head, amongst both officers and men, was somewhat larger than in 1881, under the other two heads in both classes the percentages were slightly less. There were four cases of torture in which the police were implicated during the year. In three of these they were convicted and punished under the Penal Code. In the fourth, when the evidence for the prosecution broke down in the course of the trial, there were sufficient grounds for departmental action, and the police officers concerned were dismissed from the service. During the year Rs. 11,786, as compared with Rs. 8,126 in 1881, were distributed as good-conduct allowances, and at the close of the year 8,146 men wore good-conduct stripes, as compared with 7,238 at the close of 1881. The number of officers and men specially rewarded for courage, ability, or address, was 2,307, as compared with 1,335 in 1881. The amount of the treasure escorted during the year was Rs. 13,77,97,442; none of it was lost.

Fairs.

There were 199 fairs held, at which over 3½ millions of persons were present. No serious offences, and only 151 petty offences, were reported. This gives about four offences to every 100,000 persons attending the fairs—a very satisfactory result.

Cognizable crime.

There was an increase of 4,827 in the number of cases reported, as compared with the number reported in 1881; but the number was not much in excess of that in the two preceding years, and was less than in any of the years 1874 to 1878, though the number in 1877 only exceeded it by nine. The number of cases reported in each of the last nine years was as follows:—

1874	126,122	1877	108,989	1880	108,275
1875	120,838	1878	113,621	1881	104,153
1876	117,559	1879	108,771	1882	108,980

Although there was an increase in the total number of cases, there was an increase of only 320 in the number of offences against property; minor offences against the person, and local nuisance cases, being mainly responsible for the increase shown. The decrease in the number of cases of offences against property, which has taken place since 1879, when there were 10,226 more than in the year under report, may be accepted as a real diminution in this class of crime. The favourable results are attributable to the prosperous condition of the people, the effective surveillance over bad characters and the exemplary punishment of habitual offenders. After deducting from the total number of cases those declared to be false and those falling under Class VI (Public and Local Nuisance cases, &c.), the true cases during the past year amounted to 74,046, exceeding those in the preceding year by 1,498, while it was less than the number in any of the six years which preceded 1881.

False cases.

The number of cases declared to be false was 7,753 in 1882, as compared with 7,549 in 1881; the percentage of such cases was almost the same as in the preceding year, the percentages being 7·1 and 7·2 respectively. The percentage of the cases which were reported by the police to be false, but which the Magistrate found to be true, was 7·7, the same as in the preceding year. Criminal prosecutions were instituted in 1,442 cases, and in 491 cases convictions were obtained, the number of persons punished being 523.

Cases not enquired into.

There has been a gradual increase in the number of cases not enquired into, the numbers being 1,659, or 1·5 per cent., in 1879; 2,389, or 2·2 per cent., in 1880; 3,692, or 3·5 per cent., in 1881; and 4,004, or 3·6 per cent., during the past year. The percentage of cases of hurt not enquired into was 32·9, as compared with 28·3 in 1881 and 11·2 in 1880. Out of the 4,004 cases in which the police refused to enquire in the first instance, enquiry was in 178 cases ordered by the Magistrate. Simple hurt having, under the new Code of Criminal Procedure, been made a non-cognizable offence, such cases will now be omitted from the number of cases shown as not enquired into, and there will probably therefore be a falling off in the number of such cases.

True cases.—Percentage of convictions.

The number of cases enquired into during the year, including direct cases in which no investigation was made by the police, was 99,165, as compared with 94,462 in 1881. Excluding 10,720 cases which were taken up direct by Magistrates, the number enquired into by the police was 88,445, as compared with 83,857 in 1881 and 87,764 in 1880. The percentage of convictions in these cases was slightly better than in the two preceding years, being 47·7, as compared with 46·6 in 1881 and 46 in 1880. During 1882 the number of persons under arrest amounted to 103,678, as compared with 98,576 under arrest in the preceding year. Of these, 100,888 persons appeared before a court, and 96,769 were actually tried. Of the latter, 64,372, or 62·1 per cent. of those arrested, were convicted, as compared with 60,965, or 61·8 per cent., convicted in 1881. The percentage of persons convicted to those tried was 66·5, as compared with 66·2 in 1881.

Results of commitments to Courts of Sessions.

The results in the cases committed to the Courts of Sessions were unsatisfactory. Not only was the number of convictions low, but the percentage of convictions on the number tried was smaller than in any of the six preceding years, being 59·1, as compared with 60·2 in 1881, 60·6 in 1880, 64·5 in 1879, 60·4 in 1878, 61 in 1877 and 63·1 in 1876.

Value of property stolen.

Property was stolen in 32,032 cases, as compared with 31,468 in 1881. In 11,091 cases, as against 10,327 in the preceding year, the whole of the property stolen was recovered, and in 3,620 cases, as compared with 3,637 cases in 1881, a portion of it only was recovered. The total value of the property stolen was Rs. 8,80,388, as against Rs. 9,25,632 in 1881, and of this, property to the value of Rs. 2,45,803 was recovered, as against property to the value of Rs. 2,36,909 in 1881. The results show an improvement, as not only was there an increase in the percentage of the amount recovered from 25·5 to 27·9, but the percentage of cases in which property was recovered rose from 44·3 to 46·3; and this is the better test of the efficiency of the police, as it is not materially influenced by success or failure in a few cases in which the value of the property stolen may happen to be large.

True cases of cognizable crime.

The following statement shows the number of true cases under each of the different classes for the last seven years:—

		1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Class I...	Offences against the State and public tranquillity	2,700	2,818	2,785	2,810	2,639	2,427	2,508
" II...	Serious offences against the person	4,108	4,141	4,267	3,976	4,061	4,301	4,207
" III...	Ditto ditto person and property, or against property only	22,280	20,667	23,887	20,602	18,053	19,051	18,520
" IV...	Minor offences against the person	9,073	8,842	9,534	9,608	10,874	11,096	12,450
" V...	Ditto ditto property	38,832	41,065	45,849	42,442	38,850	35,673	36,301
" VI...	Other offences not specified above	18,257	16,398	14,407	17,406	22,109	22,015	25,099
	Offences under special laws	495	480	589	1,288	1,077	2,041	2,082

Under class I there was an increase of 81 cases, which was almost entirely due to an increase in the number of cases of rioting. The increase would have been still larger had it not been in part counterbalanced by a falling off of 98 in the number of cases of harbouring offenders and other offences against public justice. Under class II there was a slight decrease. Under class III there was a decrease of 531 cases. The most marked decrease was 120 in cases of serious mischief, and 448 in cases of house-breaking. Under class IV there was a net increase of 1,354 cases. This was due to an increase of 1,376 in the number of cases of hurt. Under class V there was an increase of 628 cases, the chief increase being 494 in the number of ordinary thefts, 98 in the number of cattle thefts, and 102 in cases of trespass. Under class VI there was an increase of 3,084 cases. The principal increase was 2,349 cases under the head of local nuisances, 617 excise cases, 96 railway cases, and 79 vagrancy cases. There was only a nominal increase in the number of cases under other special laws.

Offences against the State and public tranquillity.

There was a falling off in the percentage of cases under class I, in which convictions were obtained, the number being 43·2 as compared with 50·6 in 1881. The percentage of persons convicted was 55·5, as against 57·9, which does not show such a falling off as there was in the percentage of cases. More persons were, however, pending trial at the close of the year than at the close of 1881. There was an increase of cases of rioting of 174 as compared with the preceding year, though the number only exceeded the number in 1880 by 28, and was less than the number in either 1879 or 1878. There was a decrease of 49 cases in Chittagong. In the Dacca Division there was a large increase of 214 cases, the total number of rioting cases in this Division having risen from 360 in 1881 to 574 during the past year. The increase was probably due to the fact that the uncertainty about the alteration of the Rent Law has had a disturbing effect in Eastern Bengal, and especially in Mymensingh, in which district unions have been formed among bodies of tenantry in various pergunnahs, which resisted all attempts on the part of the landlords and their employés to realize rents; the entrance of any of the zemindars' people into the villages banded in union being usually the signal for a riot ending generally in the eviction of the zemindars' people. Though the total number of cases of rioting fell in the Burdwan Division from 180 in 1881 to 167, there was a marked increase in the number of cases in Hooghly, the number being 56 as compared with 40 in 1881. The number of cases in this district has steadily increased each year from 17 in 1878 till it reached the number above stated during the past year, the cause assigned being the competition for land in the district.

Serious offences against the person.

Under class II, serious offences against the person, there was a decrease of 25 in the number of cases of murder, there being 271 cases in 1882, as against 296 in the preceding year. The number of attempts at murder also fell from 53 to 38. Under the head of culpable homicide there were 179 cases, or 29 cases less than in the previous year. As compared with 1881, cases of rape decreased from 196 to 155, and of exposure of infants from 105 to 97. Attempts to commit suicide fell from 427 to 391, administering stupefying drugs from 19 to 16, causing hurt by means of dangerous weapons from 922 to 910, and cases of selling minors from 16 to 13. On the other hand, there was an increase from 46 to 63 in the number of unnatural offences, from 609 to 655 in cases of grievous hurt, from 185 to 251 in cases of abduction and kidnapping, from 99 to 180 in cases of wrongful confinement in secret or for purpose of extortion, from 1,024 to 1,028 in cases of using criminal force to women with view to outrage their modesty, and from 68 to 74 in cases of causing death by rash or negligent acts. There was a falling off in the percentage of convictions in cases under class II, the total percentage of convictions during 1882 being 45·1, as compared with 4[illegible] in 1881, while the percentage of the convictions to persons tried by the Courts of Session fell from 56·4 in 1880 and 52·2 in 1881 to 45·2—a worse result than in any of the four years preceding that under notice. In one case of murder in Purneah, the murderer, who, on account of an intrigue with his widowed daughter-in-law, had been fined by the punchayet, killed his whole family of seven persons, including the daughter-in-law, who was *enceinte*.

and then hanged himself. There was a decrease in the number of cases of poisoning, and most of the cases which did occur were not the work of professional poisoners. The decrease is due to the steps which have been taken to put down professional poisoning.

Serious offences against person and property, or against property only.

Under class III there was an increase of 16 in the number of dacoities, there having been 121 cases in 1882 as compared with 105 in 1881. At the same time it is a pleasing contrast to the past history of the crime in Bengal that 13 districts were entirely free from dacoity. The crime is now of a different type to what it formerly was, and is very much localised. The largest number occurred in the Rajshahye Division, in which there were 32 cases, and in the Burdwan Division, in which there were 27. The value of the property stolen by dacoits during 1882 amounted to Rs. 53,490, of which property to the value of Rs. 7,358 was recovered, as compared with property to the value of Rs. 33,031 stolen and property worth Rs. 1,750 recovered during the preceding year. There were only 122 cases of robbery, as compared with 147 in the preceding year. Serious cases of mischief fell from 748 to 628. Mischief by killing animals increased slightly, there having been 730 cases during 1882, as compared with 712 in the preceding year. The cases were most numerous in those districts in which a trade in hides is carried on. The result of the trials of cases of "serious offences against person and property, or against property only," was not satisfactory, the percentage of convictions to cases being only 10·2, to persons arrested 45·6, and to persons tried 49·3.

Minor offences against the person.

There were 9,590 cases of hurt under class IV, as compared with 8,214 during the preceding year. Of these, 2,812 were taken up direct without the intervention of the police, enquiry was refused by the police in 3,203 cases and enquiry was made by them in 3,575 cases. Under the head of wrongful restraint there was a decrease of 35 cases, the number being 2,731 in 1882, as compared with 2,766 in the preceding year.

Burglary and theft.

There were 16,913 cases of burglary during the year, as compared with 17,333 in 1881 and 17,428 in 1880; convictions were obtained in 1,430 cases, or 8·5 per cent., as compared with 1,321, or 7·6 per cent., in the preceding year. The number of persons tried was 3,678, of whom 2,040, or 55·5 per cent., were convicted, as compared with 3,335 persons, of whom 1,899, or 56·9 per cent., were convicted in 1881. About 17,000 cases of burglary occur each year, and only about one in 12 of these is prosecuted to a successful termination. The results in such cases are very bad: still the decrease in the number of cases, as compared with 1880, which was observable in the figures for 1881, was even more marked in 1882. The frequency of the crime is not a matter of surprise, where the only implement the burglar wants is a piece of iron to effect his entry through a mud wall or a thatched hut; and the greater temptation to the crime is perhaps induced by the immunity which the offender enjoys at the hands of the police. There were 23,519 true cases of theft, as compared with 23,025 in 1881, and the number of cases of cattle-theft increased from 1,469 to 1,567. Cases of receiving stolen property, on the other hand, decreased slightly, there having been only 1,754 cases in 1882, as compared with 1,776 in 1881.

Offences against special and local laws.

The number of cases under class VI, dealing with offences against special or local laws, amounted to 25,099, as compared with 22,015 in 1881 and 22,[illegible]09 in 1880. There was a decrease of 81 in the number of salt cases, and an increase in the number of local nuisance, excise, Railway Acts and vagrancy cases. Out of 1,121 true vagrancy cases, 1,040 were investigated, and in 71·6 per cent. convictions were obtained, as compared with 61·2 per cent. in 1881. These results are satisfactory. Of the cases instituted, 976 were instituted on report of the police, and 153 were instituted on petitions presented to the Magistrate. The number of excise cases was 3,031, as compared with 2,414 in 1881 and 2,994 in 1880. There were 284 cases of illicit distillation, as compared with 359 in the preceding year, and of these 117 occurred in Beerbhoom and Midnapore. There were 626 cases in which the offence was the illicit possession or sale of country spirit,

567 of opium, 520 of ganja and 764 of tari. Only 425 vendors, as compared with 828 in the preceding year, were prosecuted. The percentage of convictions on cases was 76·1, as compared with 73·2 in 1881, and of persons 79·6, as compared with 81·6 in that year. There were 1,284 salt cases, as compared with 1,213 in the preceding year; and out of 1,409 persons arrested in connection with these cases, 1,263 were convicted, 168 maunds of salt were confiscated and Rs. 4,330 were realized on account of fines.

Mughya Domes.

A successful attempt was made to settle the Mughya Domes in Chumparun. This clan is one which has always given considerable trouble to the police on account of their nomadic habits and thievish propensities. They did no work, and went from place to place stealing wherever and whatever they could. The matter was fully investigated by Government, and it was decided that an attempt should be made to induce these people to settle down. The Domes having signified their willingness to live in any place selected for the purpose, two sites were chosen, and at these places lands were procured from the zemindars, who likewise supplied the materials with which the Domes erected huts for themselves. Arrangements having been made to provide the Domes with land, a grant of Rs. 500 was sanctioned by Government to provide them with cattle, ploughs and other implements of agriculture. Some of the heads of the Domes were appointed village chowkidars with the approval of the villagers. Steps have been taken to provide them with work in the fields, and at the present time, the condition of the settlements is decidedly hopeful. The number of Domes who have settled at the two places amounts to about 250 and 90 respectively. In time it is expected that the settlers will support themselves without any assistance from Government. But this cannot be looked for at first; and in addition to the Rs. 500 at first sanctioned, Government has recently given a capitation grant of Rs. 3 per head, or about Rs. 1,050. The later reports are extremely satisfactory, and justify the expectation of complete reformation of the tribe. The principal difficulty was to induce a nomadic people to take to settled habits and work; but when once a beginning is made, it should not be an arduous task to induce them to remain. The fact that since the establishment of the two colonies the number of persons in each has increased shows that for the present, at any rate, they are willing to abandon their former wandering ways; and if they can only be induced to remain, and take up agricultural pursuits, the best results may be anticipated. The Burwars of Gondah who come into Bengal are still a source of trouble; but definite proposals have now been made with a view to the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act of 1871 being eventually put in force against them. A photographer is now employed for purely police work. During the past year he photographed 23 criminals.

Non-cognizable crime.

The number of non-cognizable offences was 101,691, or 1,804 less than in the preceding year. Out of 107,543 persons summoned, 80,808 actually appeared, of whom 59·5 per cent. were convicted. The percentage was slightly higher than in 1881, when it amounted to 58·4. In the Patna Division the number of salt cases rose from 595 in 1881 to 1,287 in the past year. Before 1881 the average number of cases yearly was only 82. The police were employed in enquiring into 6,495 non-cognizable cases, or nearly 6·4 per cent., as compared with 5·8 per cent. in 1881.

POLICE IN CALCUTTA AND THE SUBURBS.

The following table shows the total number of cases, cognizable and non-cognizable, reported to have occurred in the town and suburbs during 1882 and the five preceding years:—

		1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Cognizable ...	Penal Code ...	6,260	6,192	5,537	4,644	4,476	5,118
	Miscellaneous ...	13,266	18,074	13,112	14,330	15,602	12,962
Non-cognizable	Penal Code ...	6,759	8,233	7,843	7,688	8,886	9,544
	Miscellaneous ...	18,301	13,308	15,141	15,499	18,308	12,214
Total ...		44,586	45,807	41,633	42,161	47,272	39,838

The total number of offences reported was considerably lower than the number in 1881, and was also lower than in any of the five preceding years. There was an increase of 1,300 in the number of offences under the Penal Code as compared with the number reported in 1881, while the offences under miscellaneous laws were fewer by 8,734 than during the preceding year. The net decrease in the total number of cases reported was 7,434. There was an increase of 642 in the number of cognizable offences under the Penal Code, which fell principally under the classes of "serious offences against the person and property, or against property only," "minor offences against the person" and "minor offences against property," while the number of cognizable offences under miscellaneous laws was less by 2,640 than during the preceding year. The laws under which the decrease was greatest were the Contagious Diseases Act, the Port Acts, the Stamp Act, the Stage-carriage Act, the Railway Acts, the Excise Acts and the Gambling Act. Under the head of non-cognizable offences, those under the Penal Code showed an increase of 658, chiefly under the heads of "rioting," "mischief," and "public nuisance," while under offences against miscellaneous laws there was a decrease of 6,094 cases, which occurred principally in municipal prosecutions. The total number of persons who were arrested, or who appeared on the issue of a summons, was 40,470, as compared with 47,119 in 1881; and of these 33,044, or 81·65 per cent., were convicted, as against 38,713, or 82·16 per cent., convicted during the preceding year. Though the percentage of convictions was slightly lower than during 1881, the results were on the whole satisfactory. Of the persons convicted, 11,009 were convicted of offences under the Penal Code and 22,035 of offences under miscellaneous laws. Deducting from the total number of offences reported those cases which were declared to be false, the number of offences against the State fell in the town from 65 in 1881 to 44 during the past year, and the number of serious offences against the person also fell from 201 to 190. On the other hand, the number of serious offences against the person and property, or against property only, increased from 119 in 1881 to 149 during the past year, the number of minor offences against the person from 278 to 336, and the number of minor offences against property from 2,080 in 1881 to 2,319 during 1882. In the suburbs the number of true cases of serious offences against the person fell from 69 in 1881 to 44 during the past year. There was, however, a slight increase in the number of cases of serious offences against the person and property, or against property only, the number being 49 in 1882 as compared with 47 in the preceding year. Minor offences against the person also increased from 130 to 161, and minor offences against property from 630 in 1881 to 678 in the past year.

With a decrease in the total number of offences reported, there was an increase in the number of cases declared to be false and a considerable increase in the percentage of false to true cases. The following table gives the statistics for the past two years:—

	Town.	Suburbs.	Percentage of false crime to true crime.
1881.			
Cases reported	38,902	8,370	1·12
False cases	519	13	
1882.			
Cases reported	33,477	6,361	2·07
False cases	783	43	

In 71 cases in the town prosecutions were instituted against the complainants; in 66 cases the complainants were fined, in four warned and in one the complainant was discharged. In the suburbs eight prosecutions were instituted; in two the complainants were imprisoned, in five they were fined and in the remaining case the complainant was discharged with a warning. The following table

shows the value of the property stolen and the value of that recovered during the past two years :—

		Value of property stolen.	Value of property recovered.	Percentage of value of property recovered.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881 ...	Town	1,26,045	78,800	62·51
	Suburbs	11,582	8,654	74·71
	Total ...	1,37,627	87,454	63·54
1882 ...	Town	97,900	58,307	59·55
	Suburbs	13,936	5,682	40·77
	Total ...	1,11,836	63,989	57·21

The decrease in the percentage was due to small recoveries in one or two cases in which a large amount of property was stolen. Looking to the percentage of cases in which property was recovered on the total number of cases in which property was stolen, the results during the past year were better than those of the two preceding years. The following table shows the percentage in each of these years :—

	1880.	1881.	1882.
Town	62·32	63·59	65·74
Suburbs	61·01	62·44	74·11
Total ...	62·03	63·36	67·24

The proportion of cognizable crime to population in the town was 1 to 30·99, and in the suburbs 1 to 76·75, as compared with 1 to 25·61 and 1 to 95·38 respectively during the preceding year.

Cognizable crime in the town.

The number of true cognizable cases in the town was 13,978, as compared with 16,882 in 1881 and 15,399 in 1880. There were only eight cases of offences relating to coins and stamps, as against 17 in 1881 and 26 in 1880. There were 7 cases of murder, as compared with 2 in 1881. In 3 cases the defendants were convicted, in 2 they committed suicide before trial, in one case the evidence was not considered by the jury sufficient to support a conviction and in the remaining case, which was remarkable for the absence of any cause or motive for the deed, no trace of the murderer has been found. There were 2 cases of attempts at murder, as in 1881, while there were 3 cases of culpable homicide as against 2 in that year. There were only 2 cases of rape, as compared with 5 in 1881. There were 22 cases of grievous hurt and 28 of hurt by dangerous weapons, the offences in each case being one in excess of the number in the preceding year. The number of cases of kidnapping or abduction was 18, as against 12 during 1881. There was one case of selling a minor for prostitution. In this case a man named Sheikh Nazir sold his sister, who was under the age of 16, for Rs. 25 to a brothel-keeper. Sheikh Nazir was, on conviction, sentenced to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment, the brothel-keeper to 7 years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 2,000, and her paramour to 7 years' rigorous imprisonment. While the number of cases of burglary and lurking house-tresspass and of theft was more than in the preceding year, the number of cases detected was proportionately smaller than in 1881. In 1882 there were 149 true cases of burglary and lurking house-trespass, as against 116 in 1881. Of these 69 were detected, and property to the value of Rs. 4,513 recovered out of property worth Rs. 7,430 stolen, as compared with 63 detected and property worth Rs. 5,776 recovered out of Rs. 8,625 stolen in 1881. There were 1,839 true cases of theft as compared with 1,593 in 1881, 891 cases being detected and property worth Rs. 53,754 recovered out of Rs. 89,481 stolen, as compared with 842 cases detected and Rs. 63,513 worth of property recovered out of Rs. 1,07,461 stolen in 1881. The increase in the number of cases under each of these heads was due to increased commercial activity and the larger number of ships

which came into port. These causes, by stimulating the demand for labour, augmented the floating population, at the same time that they increased the amount of property exposed to the depredations of the criminal classes. Of the cases of theft, 442 were committed by servants. Towards the close of 1881 the area in which the Contagious Diseases Act was in force was considerably restricted, and in consequence the number of offences under this Act was much lower during the past year than during that which preceded it. In 1881 the number of true cases amounted to 1,902, while during 1882 there were only 369 true cases. Under the head of "street offences" also there was a considerable decrease, the number of such cases during the past year being only 3,641 as compared with 4,437 during the preceding year, while the number of true cases of cruelty to animals increased from 2,727 in 1881 to 2,928 in 1882.

Non-cognizable crime in the town.

The number of non-cognizable offences in the town, 18,716, was less by 2,785 than during the preceding year, 21,501. There was a slight increase in the offences of cheating and mischief, and an increase of 634 in cases of public nuisance. On the other hand, there was a slight decrease under the headings of criminal force and intimidation and insult. There was a decrease of 3,415 in the number of municipal prosecutions instituted, the decrease being chiefly under the head of prosecutions for not taking out trade and profession licenses.

Cognizable crime in the suburbs.

There was an increase of 647 in the number of cognizable offences in the suburbs, the number having risen from 2,629 in 1881 to 3,276 during the past year. There was an increase under the head of hurt and breach of trust, and a large increase of 853 in the number of street offences. There was a decrease of 2 in the number of murders, of 4 in the number of cases of grievous hurt, of 5 in the cases of kidnapping, of 14 in the cases of using criminal force to a public servant, of 4 in cases of causing death by a rash act, of 22 in offences under the Carriage Act, of 17 under the Excise laws, and of the same number under the Railway laws. There were 56 cases of burglary and house-trespass as compared with 47 during the preceding year. The value of the property stolen was, however, only Rs. 1,437, as compared with Rs. 5,400 in 1881. Though the number of such cases was higher than in 1881, it was considerably lower than in any of the three previous years, the number in 1880 being 83, and the numbers in 1879 and 1878 being 109 and 110 respectively. There were 430 cases of theft as compared with 434 in 1881. The value of the property stolen was Rs. 12,499, that recovered being only of the value of Rs. 4,719. The small percentage of the recoveries was due to only Rs. 524 being recovered out of Rs. 6,000 stolen in a case at the Zoological Gardens. There has been a gradual decrease each year in the number of theft cases since 1878, when the number of such cases was 776.

Non-cognizable crime in the suburbs.

The number of non-cognizable offences in the suburbs fell from 5,728 in 1881 to 3,042 during the past year. There was a decrease of 15 in the number of minor non-cognizable offences against property, and of 2,788 in the number of offences under Local Acts, the number of offences under Conservancy Acts alone falling from 3,617 in 1881 to 836 in 1882.

Suicides, accidents and fires.

There were 45 cases of suicide as compared with 49 in 1881 and 67 in 1880. Of these, 34 occurred in the town and 11 in the suburbs. In 28 cases the persons who committed suicide were males, and in the other 17 cases females. In 19 cases the persons committed suicide by hanging themselves, in 12 by taking opium and in 7 by means of arsenic or some other poison; the others committed suicide by cutting their throats, by drowning themselves, or by other means. The number of accidental deaths which occurred in the town was 127 as compared with 103 in 1881, while the number in the suburbs was 74 and on the river 82, as compared with 77 and 52 respectively in 1881. Of the deaths on the river, 41 were due to drowning and the same number to other causes. Of the 201 deaths in the town and suburbs, 59 were due to drowning, 35 were caused by falls from trees and buildings, 19 were caused by carriages or horses, 7 by snake-bite and the rest were due to other causes. Of 19 persons killed and 344 injured in street accidents, 4 deaths and 47 injuries

were due to tram-cars. The proportion of accidents due to these conveyances, which should of all kinds be the most easily controlled, is large, and would seem to indicate a want of proper care on the part of the drivers, though the report does not state if any of them were prosecuted. Two steam-launches and 20 other boats were sunk by coming into contact with the Hooghly Bridge; but fortunately only three deaths resulted from these accidents. There were 36 fires during the year in the town and suburbs as compared with 27 in the preceding year, the value of the property destroyed being Rs. 16,87,523, exclusive of the value of property destroyed in two fires on the river, which could not be ascertained, as compared with Rs. 8,77,216 in 1881. In two fires alone, which occurred in jute mills in the suburbs, property worth more than 9 lakhs of rupees was destroyed. The fire-brigade did good service.

Arms Act.

The quantity of arms and ammunition imported through the port of Calcutta during the past seven years is shown in the following table:—

Years.	Sporting rifles.	Double and single-barrel sporting guns.	Pistols and revolvers.	Gunpowder.	Shot.	Percussion caps.
	No.	No.	No.	lb.	Bags.	No.
1876	280	1,536	283	93,300	15,290	21,203,000
1877	186	716	438	84,560	18,894	28,586,700
1878	174	365	306	80,000	11,024	11,234,000
1879	23	69	341	88,050	10,946	10,660,500
1880	116	135	356	43,200	20,040	14,881,000
1881	60	180	252	81,694	12,876	19,320,600
1882	201	196	259	84,099	9,090	20,565,250

There were only eight prosecutions under the Act during the year. They were all instituted in the suburbs, and were of a petty nature. Of the persons prosecuted, six were convicted.

Vagrants.

There were 35 European vagrants admitted into the work-house during the year, and 12 were in that institution at its commencement. Of the 47 vagrants, 19 were released on finding employment, 14 were released for whom employment could not be found, 5 were deported, 2 absconded, 1 died, and 6 were in the work-house at the close of the year. In addition to these persons, 3 others were deported, 2 to England and one to Australia. The total cost of working the European Vagrancy Act during the year was Rs. 4,162, of which Rs. 2,650 were spent in connection with the work-house, Rs. 1,299 in deporting vagrants, and Rs. 213 in providing clothing.

Cost of the town and suburban police.

The total cost of the police in the town was Rs. 4,23,896 as compared with Rs. 4,34,441 during 1881. Of this amount Rs. 2,80,805 were paid by the municipality, the rest being paid by Government, to which Rs. 49,490, received on account of fees and fines, were credited. The cost of the suburban police was Rs. 1,53,743, of which Rs. 70,048 were paid by the municipality and the rest by Government, the amount received on account of fees and fines being Rs. 13,647. The cost of the river police was Rs. 29,778, of which Rs. 7,444 were paid by Government and Rs. 22,334 by the Port Commissioners.

Constitution and conduct of the force.

The number of Bengalees in the police force in the town and suburbs was 278, including officers, while the number of up-country men amounted to 1,836. During the year 300 men resigned, 63 were discharged on pension or gratuity, 122 were dismissed, 30 were discharged, 22 deserted and 37 died. The number of resignations rose from 235 in 1881 to 300 during the past year, the great demand for labour being the cause of the increase. Resignations must always be numerous in Calcutta, where the men can get other employment in which, while the remuneration is as good as in the police, the duties are much less irksome and laborious. Only 15 men, as compared with 23 in the preceding year, were judicially punished—a fact which speaks strongly in favour of the conduct and character of the force.

Work done by the stipendiary and honorary Presidency Magistrates.

The number of cognizable cases tried by the Chief Presidency Magistrate decreased from 8,195 in 1881 to 6,879 during the past year. Of these cases, 883 were taken up by the Magistrate direct, and 5,996 were instituted by the police. In connection with these cases, 8,821 persons were put upon their trial, of whom 8,202 were convicted, 553 were acquitted or discharged, 36 were committed, one died and 29 were under trial at the close of the year. The number of cognizable cases tried by the Magistrate of the Northern Division was 4,737, as compared with 5,999 in the preceding year. Of these, 4,337 were instituted by the police and 400 were taken up by the Magistrate direct. Of 6,984 persons put on their trial before him in these cases, 6,492 were convicted, 448 were acquitted, 38 were committed, one died and 5 were under trial at the end of the year. In the Court of the Chief Presidency Magistrate, 3,506 non-cognizable cases were instituted, as compared with 3,283 in 1881; and of 4,155 persons who appeared before the Court, 3,774 were convicted and 8 were committed. In the Court of the Magistrate of the Northern Division, the number of similar cases was 3,347, the number of persons who appeared before the Court was 3,433, and of these 3,134 were convicted and one was committed. The work done by the Bench of Presidency Magistrates was satisfactory; 11,755 cases, including 10,746 under the Municipal Act, came before the Bench. The Honorary Magistrates as a body showed great interest in their work, and were ready to attend Court even on gazetted holidays. The assistance given by these gentlemen contributes largely to the speedy decision of the cases tried in the Police Court, and thereby to the general convenience of the public.

Loss of human life from wild animals and venomous snakes.

The number of persons killed in 1882 by wild animals was 1,267, as compared with 1,367 in the preceding year; while the number killed by snakes was 9,191 as compared with 9,268 in 1881. Of the total number killed 7,508 were adults and 2,950 children. The largest number of deaths (2,654) occurred in the Patna Division, and the fewest (180) in the Chittagong Division.

Destruction of cattle.

There was a small decrease in the total number of cattle killed in Bengal during the year, as compared with the number in 1881, the numbers being 8,560 against 8,577. In the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division, however, there was an increase, the number being 1,542 in 1881, as compared with 1,879. The decrease was most marked in the Chota Nagpore Division, in which the number of cattle killed fell from 2,916 in 1881 to 2,015 in 1882. In the Lohardugga district alone the number decreased from 2,172 to 1,136, though even the latter number was greater than the number destroyed in any other district in these provinces.

Destruction of wild animals and venomous snakes.

The number of wild animals destroyed was 5,867, as against 4,213 in 1881 and 4,783 in 1880. In the Patna Division the number fell from 651 in 1881 to 463 in the year under report; the figures, however, for 1881 were abnormally increased by the addition of 334 scorpions under the head of "other animals." In the Patna Division 416 wolves were destroyed, as against 292 in 1881. In the Bhagulpore Division also there was a large increase in the number of wolves destroyed, 597 having been killed, as compared with 248 in 1881. In the Shahabad district 177 wolves were killed as against 65 in 1881, and in the Bhagulpore district 369 as against 147 in the preceding year. In Mozufferpore, on the other hand, only 53 wolves were destroyed, as compared with 104 in 1881. The number of tigers destroyed during the year was 574, as against 640 in the previous year. Of these 313, or more than half, were killed in the Rajshahye Division alone, 184 having been killed in the Rungpore district, as against 161 in the preceding year. There is a falling off in the number of leopards and panthers killed in the Rungpore and Julpigoree districts, but in the Lohardugga district the number of these animals killed increased from 185 in the preceding year to 215 in 1881. No special means other than the grant of rewards were adopted in the other divisions for the destruction of wild animals; but the orders regarding the prompt payment of rewards, and the facilities to be afforded to

cultivators and others for obtaining licenses under the Arms Act, have been widely promulgated.

The number of snakes destroyed during the past year was 32,187, as compared with 19,282 in 1881 and 23,201 in 1880. The increase was, with one exception, general in every division in Bengal, but was greatest in the Patna Division, where the figures rose from 7,024 in 1881 to 16,944 during the year under report. The Chittagong Division alone shows a decrease in the number of snakes killed, the figures falling from 869 in the preceding year to 696 in 1882. As in last year, the returns for Calcutta and the Suburbs are blank; so is also the return for the Gurjat Mehals. One snake only was killed in each of the districts of Dinagepore and Darjeeling. In the districts of Mozufferpore and Patna the number of snakes killed was 6,992 and 3,222 respectively, as against 1,125 and 2,431 in 1881. The large increase in the number of snakes killed in the Patna Division was due in a large degree to the prompt payment of rewards. The increase in the number in Mozufferpore is attributable to the system of paying rewards for the destruction of snakes on the authority of certificates granted by selected indigo-planters of position, which was in operation in that district during nine months of the year. Not only do these gentlemen grant certificates, but they generally also pay the rewards, and subsequently recoup themselves by bills supported by the certificates which they have granted as vouchers. This seems to be an improvement on the certificate system, as it saves the snake-killer the trouble and loss of time involved in a journey to the head-quarters of the district or sub-division, and secures immediate remuneration, which is the best inducement for the destruction of noxious vermin. The success of the system is shown by the fact that during the nine months that it was in force 5,789 snakes were produced before the gentlemen authorized to grant certificates, and they paid as rewards for their destruction the large sum of Rs. 1,430-4.

Rewards paid for the destruction of wild animals and venomous snakes.

The total amount paid as rewards for the destruction of wild animals and venomous snakes was Rs. 32,453-14, as compared with Rs. 25,746-8 in 1881. Of this sum, Rs. 26,036-1 were paid for the destruction of wild animals, against Rs. 22,316-3 in the preceding year. The largest expenditure was incurred, as in the preceding year, in the Rajshahye Division, in which, exclusive of the small sum of Rs. 26-6 spent for the destruction of venomous snakes, Rs. 7,429 were disbursed on account of rewards for the destruction of wild animals.

classes—civil, criminal and under-trial—in jail at the commencement of the year was 16,367, as compared with 17,305 on the 1st January 1881 while the number in jail on the 31st December 1882 was only 15,595. The total admissions during the year were 77,981, as compared with 77,704 in 1881 and 82,356 in 1880. There were 78,753 discharges during the year, as compared with 78,642 during 1881 and 83,406 in 1880.

Recorded re-convictions.

The total number of re-convicted prisoners admitted into jail during the year was only 3,439, or 10·84 per cent. of the total number of convictions, as compared with 3,785, or 12·02 per cent., in 1881. The percentage of prisoners who have been convicted more than once on the total jail population in confinement at the close of the preceding year rose from 21·34 per cent. in 1878, 23·68 in 1879, and 24·55 in 1880 to 25·44 on the number of convicts in jail on the 31st December 1881. The total number of persons imprisoned in default of security was 689, as compared with 589 in 1881.

Daily average number of prisoners.

The following statement shows the average daily number of each class of prisoners in jails and subsidiary jails during the past two years :—

		1882.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Civil ...	Jails	246	224	22	.....
	Subsidiary Jails	7	3	4	.....
	Total ...	253	227	26	.....
Under Trial	Jails	638	606	32	.....
	Subsidiary Jails	464	407	57	.....
	Total ...	1,102	1,013	89	.....
Convicted...	Jails	14,521	15,262	.....	741
	Subsidiary Jails	280	244	36	.....
	Total ...	14,801	15,506	.....	705
Total ...	Jails	15,404	16,092	.....	688
	Subsidiary Jails	750	654	96	.....
	Total ...	16,154	16,746	.....	592

Sessions divisions.

The number of sessions divisions including Calcutta was 29, as at the close of 1881; but these comprised 44 districts in the past, as compared with 43 in the previous year. The increase is due to the creation of the new districtof Khoolna, which comprises the sub-division of Satkhira, hitherto forming part of the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, and the sub-divisions of Khoolna and Bagirhat, hitherto forming part of the district of Jessore. Th inew district is included in the jurisdiction of the District and Sessions Judg of Jessore, and sessions are held by that officer at Khoolna for the trial of cases arising in that district. The district was opened on the 1st June 1882.

Prisons.

During the last five years there has been a steady decrease in the average jail population of prisoners of all classes, while the average daily convict population has been gradually falling since 1876, when it was 20,227 as compared with 14,801 in the past year. The total admissions during 1882 were 77,981, or slightly more than in 1881, when there were 77,704. There were 78,753 discharges during the past year as compared with 78,642 during the preceding year. The total number of prisoners of all classes in jail on the 1st of January 1882 was 16,367, and the number remaining in jail on the 31st December last was 15,595.

Jail population.

The following table shows the number of convicts in central, district and subsidiary jails during the last eight years :—

	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Number of prisoners in jails and subsidiary jails on the last day of previous year	19,855	19,694	19,850	17,039	17,936	17,200	16,284	15,231
Admitted direct during the year	37,674	38,797	35,452	38,029	35,726	33,335	31,465	31,710
Total ...	57,529	58,491	55,302	55,068	53,662	50,535	47,749	46,941
Admitted by transfer	18,246	20,023	19,528	20,132	20,500	18,811	17,094	15,760
Total ...	75,775	78,514	74,830	76,100	74,162	69,346	64,843	62,701
Deduct transferred	18,335	20,029	19,562	20,559	20,206	18,644	16,810	15,548
" released	36,656	37,358	37,272	36,277	34,977	33,239	31,664	31,701
" escaped	29	27	20	41	34	12	14	6
" died	1,002	1,184	877	1,230	1,091	1,094	1,065	1,084
" executed	59	66	60	57	54	73	59	85
Total discharged ...	56,081	58,664	57,791	58,164	56,362	53,062	49,612	48,324
Balance at the end of the year ...	19,694	19,850	17,039	17,936	17,200	16,284	15,231	14,377
Daily average number of prisoners ...	19,978	20,227	17,527	17,274	17,258	16,673	15,506	14,801

Although the number of convicts admitted direct amounted to 31,710 as compared with 31,465 during 1881, the daily average convict population fell from 15,506 during 1881 to 14,801 during the past year. The decrease was due to the larger number of convicts sentenced to short terms of imprisonment. Of the 31,701 convicts released during the year, 28,234 were released on the expiration of their sentences, 1,384 on appeal, 2,051 under the remission rules, 25 on medical and 4 on special grounds, and the remaining 3 were released in conformity with a policy similar to that adopted by the Government of India in respect to the release of life-convicts from the Andamans. The cases of all life-convicts who are confined in jails in Bengal and are not deported to the Andamans, and whose offences were not of such a kind as to render them permanently dangerous to society or to public order, are reported to Government when they have completed 20 years of their sentence; and if their conduct has been uniformly good during their imprisonment, the sanction of Government is obtained to the remission of the remaining portion of their sentences. This practice was only introduced during the past year, and under it three prisoners were released. It is believed that this hope of release cannot fail to operate as an incentive to good behaviour.

Transfer of convicts to central jails.

The system under which as large a number of convicts as possible will be confined in central jails is being carried into effect, and the transfers of convicts from district to central jails, as these jails are being completed, has resulted in an increase in the average percentage of convicts in central jails on the total average number of convicts in central, district and subsidiary jails, from 47·87 in 1880 and 50·03 in 1881 to 52·10 in 1882, though, owing to the decrease in the total convict jail population, the average number of convicts actually confined in central jails

was lower during 1882 than during either of the two years which preceded it. Government recognises that these transfers to central jails under the management of special officers are advantageous both as regards work and discipline and also as regards the health of the prisoners. At a time when a large number of the districts in Bengal are suffering severely from the effects of malaria, it is a great advantage to remove prisoners to central jails, which are in most cases situated in salubrious localities. Now that the central jails are all but completed, the charges upon the State for jail purposes are thereby lessened, while the health, discipline and useful employment of prisoners are considerably promoted.

Convict population.

The following table shows the number of convicts in central, district and subsidiary jails during the past three years:—

	1880.		1881.		1882.	
Total daily average population of convicts in central, district and subsidiary jails	6,673		15,506		14,801	
	Average population.	Percentage to grand total.	Average population.	Percentage to grand total.	Average population.	Percentage to grand total.
Central Jails...	7,983	47·87	7,757	50·03	7,712	52·10
District „	8,439	50·62	7,505	48·40	6,809	46·01
Subsidiary „	251	1·51	244	1·57	280	1·89

The slight increase during the past year in the average number of convicts in subsidiary jails was due to the detention of short-term prisoners for employment in some of them which were under construction, and to an increase in the number of these jails. There was a decrease in the percentage of the convict population in district jails, and space was available in most district jails to meet sudden emergencies which might arise from an increase of the jail population, or to satisfy any requirements on account of transfer in the case of severe outbreaks of sickness.

Juvenile convicts.

The number of convicts under sixteen years of age in jail on the 31st December last was 84, of whom 75 were males and 9 were females, as compared with 94 at the close of 1881, and 118 at the end of 1880. The decrease was due to the opening during the year of a reformatory school at Hazareebagh for boys from Behar.

Convicts transported, executed, &c.

The number of convicts transported during the past year was 518, as compared with 666 during the preceding year. Owing to the strict supervision now exercised by the Medical Board in Calcutta, more convicts were rejected as unfit for transportation during 1882 than during 1881, and the necessary result has been that the number of transportation prisoners in the jails has increased. The second gang of Burmese life-convicts was received during the past year for confinement in the jails in Bengal. The total number that has been received from Burma is 36, and of these prisoners, one has died and one has become insane. The system of keeping only two of these prisoners in the same jail has worked well, and with the exception of an assault committed by a Burmese convict upon a warder in the Bhagulpore jail, their conduct has been good. No attempts to escape were made during the year. Since the close of the year, however, the two Burmese convicts in the Berhampore jail succeeded in breaking out, but they were recaptured. Only 35 prisoners were executed during the year as compared with 59 in 1881 and 73 in 1880. Of 14,377 convicts in jail at the close of the year, 86 were Christians, 5,434 Mahomedans, 8,343 Hindus, 80 Buddhists and Jains and 434 belong to other religions. The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted into jail during 1882 was only 3,439, or 10·84 per cent of the total number of convictions, as compared with 3,785, or 12·02 per cent., in 1881. The percentage of prisoners who have been convicted more than once on the total jail population has risen from 21·34 per cent. in 1878, 23·68 in 1879 and 24·55 in 1880, to 25·44 on the number of convicts in jail on 31st December 1881.

Under-trial prisoners.

The total number of under-trial prisoners in jail during 1882 was 27,996, including 888 in confinement at the commencement of the year. Of these, 13,024 were convicted, 11,776 were released, 2,145 were transferred, 50 died and four escaped. The number remaining in jail at the close of the year was 997 as compared with 888 at the close of 1881 and 784 at the close of 1880. The average period of detention rose from 14·15 days in 1881 to 14·82 days in 1882, though the period is slightly shorter than the average (15·04 days) in 1880.

Civil prisoners.

Including 248 prisoners in jail at the commencement of the year, the total number of civil prisoners in jail during 1882 was 3,651, as against 3,253 during 1881. Of these 3,364 were released, 65 were transferred and one died, leaving 221 in jail at the close of the year. There has been a steady increase in the number of civil prisoners confined during the last seven years, the number during the past year being more than double the number admitted in 1876. The numbers admitted during each of the past seven years were :—

1876	1,688	1879	2,665
1877	1,749	1880	2,749
1878	2,419	1881	3,016
1882	3,403		

The daily average of civil prisoners in jail during the past year was 252·7.

Jail buildings.

The following table shows the amount expended during the year and that which preceded it, both in the erection of jail buildings and on repairs :—

	Major original works.		Minor original works.		Repairs.		Total.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Central Jails ...	1,62,862	3,44,654	746	803	9,067	27,823	1,72,675	3,73,280
District „ ...	4,83,118	5,16,462	1,514	2,832	24,423	61,920	5,09,055	5,81,214
Subsidiary „ ...	46,360	45,974	301	687	9,872	9,626	56,533	56,287
Total ...	6,92,340	9,07,090	2,561	4,222	43,362	99,369	7,38,263	10,10,781

The total expenditure was thus considerably in excess of the expenditure during the preceding year. Excluding works which have been commenced, the list of the works still required to place the Jail Department in a thoroughly satisfactory position as regards its jail buildings is a small one. When all that is now in hand and what is in contemplation has been finished, there will be little left to do either to improve the sanitation, or to add to the security, of the various jails in Bengal, as far as the buildings themselves are concerned. The Rungpore, Chumparun and the Julpigoree jails have been completed; the additions to and alterations in the Furreedpore, Russa and Mozufferpore jails have been finished; the new Gya and Pubna jails were occupied by the prisoners; with the exception of the civil ward, which will soon be ready, the Rungpore jail has been completed; in the Bhagulpore jail one of the new barracks has been completed, while a second barrack in the Backergunge jail will soon be finished; and progress was made in the Dacca jail. The daily average number of prisoners employed during the past year on jail-buildings was 3,538, as compared with 4,108 in 1881.

Warder guards.

In the year under report there was a further development of the warder guard system, and the substitution of warders for policemen in the reserve guards in all the jails in Bengal was sanctioned. Besides the fact that the reserve guard will now be composed of thoroughly trained men under the command of an ex-soldier of the native army, a considerable improvement has been made in the arms supplied to this guard. In the place of the muzzle-loading musket with cartridges containing the ordinary spherical bullet, the guard is now armed with the breech-loading Snider rifle and supplied with buck-shot cartridges. In addition to these improvements a regular alarm parade has been introduced, in which every jail official is made to take a part, so that he may know exactly what he is expected to do in the case of a disturbance. Most of the jails have

made great progress in the military training of their warder guards, and a very creditable amount of efficiency has already been attained.

Escapes.

There was a great decrease in the number of escapes of convicts during the past year, there having been only 13 escapes from jails and 7 from subsidiary jails, as compared with 28 from jails and 9 from subsidiary jails in 1881. These results are due to the improvement in the system of guarding, as well as to the increased security, in many instances, of the jails themselves. The number of escapes shows a great falling off as compared with former years, the total number of escapes having diminished from 192 in 1870, 157 in 1871 and 128 in 1872, to 37 during 1881 and 20 during the past year. Of the 13 escapes from jails, only 6 were from within jail walls; the remaining 7 were effected by prisoners outside the walls. There were for the first time no escapes from cells at night. For neglect in connection with the 20 escapes, 18 salaried officials and 6 convict officials were punished. Of the prisoners who escaped during 1882, 14 have been recaptured, as well as 6 prisoners who escaped in previous years.

Discipline—Punishment.

The state of discipline in the jails throughout these provinces during the past year was most satisfactory, the jails, with a few exceptions, having been thoroughly well managed in this respect. There was, however, an increase in the percentage of offences committed by prisoners on the daily average jail population. The total number of offences committed during 1882 was only 48,570, as compared with 49,749 in 1881; but in consequence of the reduction in the jail population, the percentage rose from 320·8 to 328, while the percentage on the total number of prisoners who passed through the jail rose from 76·7 in 1881 to 77·4 during the past year. The number and details of offences committed during the last three years are shown in the following table:—

	Criminal offences.	Breaches of Jail Rules.			Total offences.
		Smoking or having possession of forbidden articles.	Offences relating to work.	Other offences against prison discipline.	
1880	81	3,690	40,527	17,715	62,013
1881	111	3,711	27,963	17,964	49,749
1882	76	3,604	26,602	18,288	48,570

In a place like a jail there must always be a large number of petty offences, and so long as these are for the most part limited to failures and omissions in connection with work, and are not offences against discipline, the actual number is of comparatively little consequence, provided, as would seem to be the case, that a large proportion is detected by the vigilance of the jail staff. In the matter of punishments, it was conclusively established by the registers, and by the testimony of official and other visitors, that no penalties were ever imposed except under the orders of the Superintendents.

The following statement shows the number and nature of the punishments inflicted for offences during the past three years:—

	By Criminal Courts.	By Jail Officers.					Total punishments.	Percentage of total punishments on daily average number of prisoners.
		Solitary confinement.	Reduced diet.	Solitary confinement with reduced diet.	Corporal punishments.	All other punishments.		
1880 ...	76	2,590	16,314	2,417	4,735	35,876	62,008	344·47
1881 ...	101	2,463	9,411	2,258	914	34,593	49,740	320·77
1882 ...	79	3,067	5,087	3,098	416	36,827	48,574	328·18

There has again been a very marked decrease in the number of corporal punishments, only 416 prisoners having been flogged as compared with 914 in 1881, 4,735 in 1880 and 8,232 in 1879. This punishment is now only resorted to in cases of clear necessity, and then it is administered with due discretion. The penalty of corporal punishment is reserved for the graver class of offences, and the power of inflicting it can scarcely be entirely withdrawn from the jail authorities, having regard to the extent of the jail

population, and the number of incorrigible prisoners which it must contain. There was an increase in the number of instances in which solitary confinement was adopted as a means of punishment. This is probably due to the construction of solitary cells in many jails in which they did not formerly exist. On the other hand there has been a decrease of nearly 50 per cent. in the number of prisoners punished by reduced diet.

Convict officers.

Out of a daily average of 14,240 male and 561 female convicts, there was a daily average of 739 male and 10 female convict officers. Of these the number punished during the year was 1,578 as compared with 1,334 in 1881, the increase being due to the stricter supervision enforced. Convict warders have worked very well, and the introduction of this grade of officers has been an undoubted success. A strong proof of the satisfactory manner in which the convict warders have worked is found in the fact that only one out of a daily average of 158 was degraded during the past year. The mark system, under which prisoners obtain a remission of a portion of their sentence, in proportion to the number of marks obtained for good conduct, work, &c., has also continued to work satisfactorily, and the punishment of prisoners by depriving them of some of the marks which they have earned has in many of the large jails helped to reduce the number of such punishments as penal diet and whipping.

Jail expenditure.

The following statement shows the total expenditure on central, district and subsidiary jails during the last eight years:—

	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
General supervision	41,417	40,114	46,474	46,443	44,805	47,243	49,342	48,031
Dieting prisoners...	5,61,832	5,65,096	5,[illegible]2,696	6,18,143	4,91,844	3,81,733	2,93,987	3,00,138
Establishment (excluding the police)	3,10,739	3,19,222	3,24,207	3,22,895	3,92,394	4,04,761	3,99,325	4,25,511
Hospital charges ...	33,346	36,487	30,120	35,988	46,538	39,520	38,134	42,269
Clothing	73,743	63,059	58,433	64,229	65,611	72,681	53,224	64,486
Miscellaneous contingencies ...	63,751	69,831	86,345	1,08,532	1,01,506	1,05,945	82,149	88,215
Petty construction and repairs ...	15,839	22,931	21,026	16,289	35,382	28,725	19,667	21,440
Police	1,58,147	1,65,259	1,60,805	1,31,797	57,809	43,766	39,815	31,249
Stationery	.....	2,444	2,702	2,492	1,207	1,500	1,348	2,058
Medical stores ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	[illegible]	5,915
Total ...	12,58,814	12,84,443	12,62,808	13,46,808	12,37,151	11,25,874	9,82,107	10,36,212
Daily average population of all classes	21,381	21,818	18,853	18,811	18,691	18,001	16,747	16,155

	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Average expenditure per prisoner	58 14 0	58 13 11	66 15 8	71 9 6	66 3 0	62 8 8	58 10 3	64 2 3
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Public Works Department ...	2,46,264	1,51,792	1.20,128	1,59,791	3,21,142	2,71,500	7,38,263	10,10,781

Excluding subsidiary jails, the total expenditure on central and district jails was Rs. 9,01,769 as compared with Rs. 8,49,632, and the average cost per prisoner Rs. 58-8-7, as against Rs. 52-12-9 in the preceding year, and Rs. 57-10-6 and Rs. 61-8-2 in 1880 and 1879 respectively. Although there was a decrease in the total jail population, there was a net increase of Rs. 10,511 in the expenditure on rations for the prisoners, the average expenditure on diet being Rs. 19-4-10 per man as compared with Rs. 17-12-5 in 1881. The increase was in part due to the increase in the price of the principal articles of consumption, and also in part to the fact that medical officers exercised in many jails the discretion vested in them of giving animal food and of varying the diet in other ways when the health of the prisoners rendered

this advisable. Excluding the Presidency and the Darjeeling jails in both of which, for special reasons, the expenditure on account of diet is always high, the highest average cost per prisoner for diet was Rs. 23-9-5 in the Julpigoree jail, and the lowest, Rs. 11-9-6, in the Singbhoom jail. The high rate in the Julpigoree jail was caused by the price paid for meat, the supply of which was necessitated on medical grounds. The extreme cheapness in the Singbhoom jail was due to the fact that in it owing to the want of facilities for report the price of rice in always low. The total expenditure on account of establishment in jails amounted to Rs. 3,76,450, as compared with Rs. 3,49,657 in 1881. The following statement gives the details:—

	Expenditure.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1882.	1881.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Superintendents and Deputy Superintendents ...	1,38,801	1,17,855	20,946	.....
Jailors, Deputy Jailors and Assistant Jailors ...	1,03,051	1,00,288	2,763	.....
Native Doctors and Compounders	14,631	15,383	.....	752
Warder staff	1,19,967	1,16,131	3,836	.....
Total ...	3,76,450	3,49,657	26,793	.....

There was a considerable increase under the head of "Superintendents and Deputy Superintendents." This increase was in a measure due to the new arrangement regarding the superintendence of the Presidency Jail. Formerly a Surgeon attached to the General Hospital held also the appointment of Superintendent and Medical Officer of the Presidency Jail, and the Jail Department was debited with only half his salary. A separate Superintendent has now been appointed and during the past year the whole of his salary was paid by the Jail Department. The increase of Rs. 3,836 was due to the substitution of warder reserve guards for police reserves in many of the jails: the step has, however, caused an actual saving, as the amount expended on police guards was less by Rs. 7,566 during the past year than during 1881.

The average number of prisoners undergoing sentences of labour during 1882 was 14,569·37 as compared with 15,274 during 1881. Of these 3,598 were employed specially on prison duties; of whom 749 were employed as prison officials, 1,386 as prison servants, 895 in gardening, 407 in making articles for jail use and 161 in executing jail repairs.

Manufactures.

The result of the jail manufactures during the past year as compared with the result in 1881 is shown in the following abstract statement:—

		1882.	1881.
Credits.		Rs.	Rs.
Cash in hand at the end of 1882 and 1881	...	2,973	20
Manufactured articles " "	...	2,95,008	2,65,318
Raw materials " "	...	1,23,552	1,05,744
Outstanding bills due to jails " "	...	23,167	20,998
" " by jails " "	...	114	60
Plant and machinery " "	...	5,23,649	4,50,004
Remittance by cash and invoice " "	...	11,70,545	11,21,935
Total credits	...	21,39,008	19,64,079
Debits.			
Cash in hand at the end of 1881 and 1880	...	20	.....
Manufactured articles " "	...	2,63,401	1,55,569
Raw materials " "	...	1,05,740	1,29,070
Outstanding bills due to jails " "	...	20,998	21,954
" " by jails " "	...	2,189	114
Plant and machinery " "	...	4,49,637	4,47,321
Drawn from the treasury during the year "	...	8,35,004	6,84,082
Total debits	...	16,76,989	14,38,110
Profit	...	4,62,019	5,25,969

There was a decrease of Rs. 63,950 in profits as compared with 1881. In the case of central jails alone there was a falling off in the amount of profits of Rs. 59,667, as compared with the profits realized during 1881. In the Presidency Jail the profits of the Press decreased in consequence of a lower scale of charges being introduced during the year. There was a profit of only Rs. 31,722 in the Bhagulpore Central Jail, as compared with Rs. 51,834 in 1881. In the Buxar Jail, the profits rose from Rs. 10,145 in 1881 to Rs. 31,853 in 1882. All the goods manufactured in this jail were for the use of Government, and consisted of tents, and clothing for prisoners, warders, the police and hospital patients. In the Rajshahye Central Jail the profits rose from Rs. 13,623 in 1881 to Rs. 19,404 during the past year. Castor-oil pressing is the staple industry of this jail. A new industry, that of silk-worm rearing, has, however, been introduced into the jail with a view to improving the breed of silk-worms in the neighbourhood, and the mulberry is being cultivated in the jail garden. The profits in the Hazareebagh jail amounted to Rs. 8,268. The aloe-fibre matting, which is manufactured in this jail, received special mention at the Exhibition in Melbourne. The aloe plantation round the jail is thriving, and the surplus fibre has a ready sale. A profit of Rs. 7,051, as compared with Rs. 4,479 in 1881, was realized in the Darjeeling jail. The profits were principally derived from the bakery, from which almost the whole of Darjeeling is supplied with bread. The average earnings per prisoner sentenced to labour in central, district and subsidiary jails were lower than in 1881, but higher than in 1880, the average during the three years being—

	Rs.
1880	25·3
1881	34·4
1882	31·7

There was an increase in the value of plant and machinery from Rs. 4,48,433 in 1881 to Rs. 5,22,108 in 1882. The profits were lower than they would have been had there not been so many jails either under construction or repair, and had not the acceptance of contracts been to some extent retarded by the uncertainty which existed in connection with the future of jail manufactures; an uncertainty which, it may be remarked, has not yet been removed.

Subsidiary Jails.

Three new subsidiary jails at Netrokona, Nowgong, and Kurseong, were opened during the year, while those at Rajmehal and Deoghur were converted into Magistrate's hajuts; the total number of subsidiary jails at the close of the year being 83, as compared with 82 at the close of 1882. The total number of prisoners of all classes in subsidiary jails at the close of 1881 was 676, as compared with 610 at the close of 1880; 28,136 were admitted during the year, as compared with 27,589 during 1881; and the number remaining in the subsidiary jails at the close of the year was 823 as compared with 676 at the close of 1881. As regards convicts only, the number admitted during the year was 14,474, as against 14,317 admitted during the preceding year; the total number, including those in the jails at the commencement of the year, and those admitted by transfer, was 15,307. Of these 9,975 were transferred, 4,879 were released, 13 died and 2 escaped. There were at the close of the year 438 convicts in confinement, as compared with 334 at the close of the preceding year. The daily average of convicts in subsidiary jails during the past year was 280·56, as compared with 244·13 in 1881. There was an increase in the average detention of convicts in subsidiary jails as compared with 1881, 1880, and 1879, though the average period was less than in 1878 or 1877; the average during 1882 being 6·82 days as compared with 6·02 and 6·11 days in 1881 and 1880 respectively. The increase was due to some short-term prisoners being kept on in subsidiary jails under construction. When the necessity for their being so employed ceases the average period of detention in these jails will be reduced, for as a rule, prisoners, except those sentenced to less than seven days' imprisonment, are transferred on conviction to district jails. The average detention of under-trial prisoners increased from 11·7 days in 1881 and 12·05 days in 1880 to 12·88 days in the past year. Though this was much less than the average detention in 1879, when it reached 17·16 days, it was still high. The number of

civil prisoners admitted during 1882 was 184, as compared with 97 in 1881, 93 in 1880, and 84 in 1879. Only 6 prisoners were subjected to corporal punishment for breaches of jail rules, as compared with 33 in 1881 and 81 in 1880. The infliction of corporal punishment for jail offences is now prohibited in all subsidiary jails. The number of deaths amongst prisoners of all classes rose from 14 in 1880 to 21 in 1881 and 22 during the past year; the percentages on the daily average population being 2·06, 3·20, and 2·93, respectively. The total expenditure during 1882 was Rs. 1,33,826, of which Rs. 56,287 was expended on public works, as compared with Rs. 1,33,200 (including Rs. 56,533) expended in 1881. The total average cost of each prisoner, exclusive of the amount spent on public works, was Rs. 103-3-11 as compared with Rs. 117-0-9 in 1881; the average cost of diet per prisoner being Rs. 18-2-8, as compared with Rs. 18-3-10 in 1881. The net profit from manufactures was Rs. 2,354, as compared with Rs. 2,795 in 1881; the average profit per prisoner sentenced to labour being Rs. 10-1-8, as compared with Rs. 13-11-2 in the preceding year. During the year the revised Jail Code for all central and district jails was passed, and shortly after the close of the year a Code, applicable to subsidiary jails only, received the sanction of Government. This Code, it is hoped, will simplify the work of reference, as in the old Jail Code the special rules for subsidiary jails were also embodied, and reference to any particular rule was thus rendered a work of difficulty. Now all the rules applicable to subsidiary jails only have, after revision and improvement, been brought together and issued in a convenient form.

Sanitation.

The year, as regards the number of admissions into hospital and the percentage of the daily average sick, cannot be regarded as a healthy one. The total number of admissions of prisoners of all classes into hospital in central, district and subsidiary jails was 27,154, as compared with 27,589 in 1881. The following table shows the vital statistics in all jails and subsidiary jails since 1863:—

	Daily average number of prisoners.	Daily average sick.	Percentage of daily average sick.	Number of Deaths.			Percentage of Deaths.			Remarks.
				From cholera.	From all other causes.	Total number of deaths.	From cholera.	From all other causes.	From all causes, including cholera.	
1863 ...	16,543	847	5·14	338	1,223	1,561	2·05	7·43	9·48	All classes of prisoners.
1864 ...	16,729	814	4·86	231	804	1,035	1·38	4·80	6·18	
1865 ...	17,439	756	4·33	162	790	952	0·92	4·53	5·45	
1866 ...	20,683	746	5·45	684	1,539	2,223	3·30	7·40	10·70	
1867 ...	18,733	668	3·56	162	916	1,078	0·90	4·90	5·80	
1868 ...	18,061	646	3·57	122	802	924	0·70	4·40	5·10	
1869 ...	18,476	676	3·65	176	771	947	0·90	4·20	5·11	Convicts and under-trial prisoners only.
1870 ...	18,546	623	3·35	171	659	830	0·90	3·60	4·50	
1871 ...	17,560	636	3·63	38	661	699	0·20	3·80	4·00	
1872 ...	19,105	673	3·52	117	885	1,002	0·60	4·60	5·20	
1873 ...	20,142	689	3·42	128	832	960	0·60	4·10	4·70	
1874 ...	21,569	782	3·62	145	1,027	1,172	0·70	4·70	5·40	
1875 ...	21,257	835	3·92	96	949	1,045	0·40	4·50	4·90	
1876 ...	21,672	849	3·91	267	975	1,242	1·23	4·50	3·73	
1877 ...	18,709	730	3·90	151	763	914	0·80	4·08	4·88	
1878 ...	18,611	803	4·31	215	1,072	1,287	1·15	5·76	9·91	
1879 ...	18,483	947	5·12	341	1,411	1,752	1·84	7·64	9·48	
1880 ...	17,802	941	5·28	31	1,100	1,131	0·17	6·18	6·35	
1881 ...	16,520	873	5·28	85	1,014	1,099	0·51	6·14	6·65	
1882 ...	15,902	849	5·33	151	933	1,084	0·95	5·86	6·81	
Total ...	372,392	15,383	4·13	3,811	19,126	22,937	1·02	5·13	6·15	
Average ...	18,619	769	4·13	190	956	1,146	1·02	5·13	6·15	

From this table it appears that the percentage of the average daily sick on the average of the total jail population was 5·33, which is higher than in any year since 1866, while the percentage of deaths from all causes was 6·81, which is higher than the percentage in either of the two preceding years though lower than the percentage in 1878 and 1879. Excluding from the number of deaths those which were caused by cholera, the percentage was 5·86, which is lower than the percentages similarly obtained for the three preceding years.

The increase in the number of admissions into hospital is in part due to the fact that the system of fortnightly weighments has resulted in the sending to hospital of prisoners who would not under the old system have been subjected to medical treatment at all, and it was probably in consequence of this course being adopted that, with a higher percentage of daily average sick, there was, excluding deaths from cholera, a decrease in the percentage of deaths as compared with the percentage in the three preceding years. Referring to the statistics regarding convicts only, it appears that the total number of deaths was 1,034, or 6·98 per cent., as compared with 1,065, or 6·86 per cent., in 1881. Excluding deaths from cholera, the death-rate among the same class was 6·03 as compared with 6·34 in the preceding year. The results of the year, as compared with the preceding three years, were as shown in the following table:—

Year.	Ratio Per Cent of Average Strength of Convicts.			
	Admissions into hospital.	Daily sick.	Deaths.	
			Total.	Excluding deaths from cholera.
1879	167·8	5·3	9·79	7·96
1880	168·2	5·4	6·54	6·36
1881	169·6	5·4	6·86	6·34
1882	174·1	5·5	6·98	6·03

There was a considerable increase in the percentage of admissions into hospital and a slight increase in the average daily sick, and also in the percentage of deaths from all causes. It is, however, satisfactory that the death-rate, excluding deaths from cholera, has to some extent decreased. Excluding deaths from this cause, the average death-rate in all the jails in Bengal for the past 20 years is 5·13 per cent., but in the past year there were 23 jails, containing 8,845 convicts, in which the death-rate was below this percentage, while in 24 jails, containing 5,675 convicts, the death-rate exceeded it. In the Mymensingh Jail the death-rate amounted to 22·6 per cent. In the following jails the death-rate, though not so excessive, was very high: Chumparun (14·5), Burdwan (14·2), Bogra (12·2), Lohardugga (11·9), Dinagepore (11·7), Purneah (11·4), Beerbhoom (11·1), Moorshedabad (10·7) and Singbhoom (10·2). In no other jail did the rate reach 9 per cent., though in Backergunge it was 8·8 per cent., and in four other jails—Mozufferpore, Sarun, Durbhunga and Buxar—it exceeded 8 per cent. In the Darjeeling, Julpigoree, Rajshahye and Rungpore jails the death-rate exceeded 7 per cent., and in the Baraset, Hazareebagh, Monghyr and Nuddea Jails it exceeded 6 per cent. The death-rate in the Julpigoree Jail shows a very satisfactory decrease from 28·5 per cent. in 1881 to 7·5 per cent. in 1882, whilst in the Baraset Jail it fell from 20·8 to 6·7, and in the Nuddea Jail from 10·5 to 6. The number of admissions into hospital of cases of dysentery and diarrhœa amounted to 7,765, as compared with 7,484 in 1881, though the deaths from these diseases decreased from 475 to 431. There were 825 admissions for anæmia and general debility, and 97 deaths from these causes, against 100 in 1881; 80 deaths out of 745 cases of respiratory diseases, as compared with 107 in the preceding year; 8,692 cases of intermittent fever and 69 deaths; 49 deaths from scrofula and phthisis, against 43 in 1881; and 48 deaths from remittent and continued fever, the same number of deaths as in the preceding year. The number of deaths from cholera was large, and the disease was generally severe in type, there being 146 deaths out of 256 cases, or 57·03 per cent. The deaths from this disease were much in excess of those in 1881 and 1880, in which years they amounted to only 80 and 31 respectively. The jails in which the largest number of deaths from cholera took place were Dacca (30), Bhagulpore (26), Mymensingh (17), Chumparun (17), Alipore (11) and Buxar (9).

Of the convicted prisoners who were discharged during the year, 56·73 per cent., as compared with 54·35 in 1881, 47·51 in 1880 and 37·16 in 1879, had increased in weight, while the percentage of those who had lost weight was only 28·76, as compared with 33 per cent. in 1881, 38·88 in 1880 and 48·87 in 1879. The unhealthiness of the prisoners in the Bengal jails, and

the mortality amongst them, must be attributed in a very great degree to the unhealthiness of the country generally, rather than to any defects in the jails themselves, or to the diet and treatment of the prisoners, or the work upon which they are employed. Out of 1,034 deaths, 645, or 62·37 per cent., were caused by fever, intermittent and remittent, dysentery and diarrhœa, anæmia, and general debility; and excluding 146 deaths due to cholera, the percentage of the deaths from the above-mentioned causes amounted to 72·6 per cent., of the total number of deaths. It is a well-known fact that dysentery, diarrhœa, anæmia and general debility are the results of fever, and it appears that, excluding cholera, nearly three-fourths of the deaths in the jails during the past year resulted from fever or from its after-effects, though the vast majority of the deaths are attributable to the latter cause. Nor is this state of things peculiar, it is believed, to jails alone. Fever of course prevails in them, but is not confined to them. It is certain that it prevails also to a very large extent amongst the free population, though the want of reliable vital statistics renders it impossible to compare with any approach to accuracy their state with that of the jail population. That fever and its *sequelæ* are prevalent in many parts of the country is a well-known fact, and the general state of health amongst the lower or criminal classes is clearly shown from the number of prisoners admitted in bad or indifferent health. The following table, showing the number of prisoners in good, bad and indifferent health when admitted during the last five years, indicates apparently that the general health of the free population, or at least of that portion of it from which the bulk of the jail population is drawn, is deteriorating:—

	State of Health on Admission of those who were admitted into the jails during the year.			Proportion to Total Number Admitted.		
	Good.	Indifferent.	Bad.	Good.	Indifferent.	Bad.
1878	53,108	4,945	2,306	87·99	8·19	3·82
1879	49,921	6,626	2,433	84·64	11·24	4·12
1880	44,468	7,516	2,343	81·85	13·84	4·31
1881	40,884	6,838	2,393	81·59	13·64	4·77
1882	39,574	7,662	2,609	79 39	15·38	5·23

The following statement shows the extent to which the death-rate was affected by the prisoners admitted in bad or indifferent health:—

	State of Health on Admission into jail of those who died during the year.			Proportion to Total Deaths.		
	Good.	Indifferent.	Bad.	Good.	Indifferent.	Bad.
1879	987	386	362	56·88	22·25	20·87
1880	519	312	289	46·34	27·86	25 80
1881	546	263	270	50·60	24·38	25·02
1882	517	295	251	48·64	27·75	23·61

No doubt the effect of confinement on prisoners is, at first especially, to render them depressed and less easily able to resist disease than men in a state of freedom. The entire change in life on their admission into jail may also in some cases have a prejudicial effect on them during the earlier stages of their confinement. But the longer prisoners remain in jail after a certain time the lower apparently becomes the death-rate per cent. The returns for the past year show that the percentage of deaths amongst prisoners who had been in jail for less than six months was 6·03; in the case of those who had been in confinement between six and twelve months it rose to 8·86; whilst the highest percentage, 9 76, was in the case of prisoners who had been in jail between one and two years. By the end of this time apparently those who entered in bad health had either died or been cured, and the remainder would seem to have become accustomed to jail life, for the percentage after two years begins to fall, and goes on steadily decreasing the longer the prisoners are in confinement. The percentage amongst those who

had been in jail from two to three years was only 6·11, while of those who had been in confinement from three to seven years only 5·27 per cent. died, and after seven years the percentage of deaths was only 4·05.

To whatever cause the unhealthiness of many of the Bengal jails may be attributed, the evil, it may confidently be asserted, is not due to any defects in the jails themselves. A great expenditure has been incurred in their construction. They are palatial residences compared with the mud huts of the native villages. Many of them during the last few years have been provided, at a very heavy cost, with barracks of two and three stories in height for the accommodation of prisoners at night. The occupants, therefore, are not only well raised from the ground, but have clean, roomy, well-ventilated wards to sleep in. Wherever it has been possible, the prescribed space of 36 superficial and 560 cubic feet per prisoner has been increased to 50 superficial and 648 cubic feet, so that the question of overcrowding can but seldom arise; indeed, wherever a jail has more than its full complement of prisoners, endeavours are, as a rule, made to provide additional temporary accommodation, or to utilize verandahs and corridors instead of overcrowding the wards. Great care is taken to supply good drinking-water; and every jail is provided with a proper filter, and where water is procured from wells, it is raised by means of a pump to prevent contamination. The care taken with regard to diet is evident from the frequent exercise by medical officers of their power to order animal food, or to change the diet-scale if required under special circumstances, the result being that with a smaller number of prisoners the expenditure on diet was larger than during the preceding year. The kinds of labour have remained unchanged, but Superintendents can lessen the labour if a prisoner is losing weight, or if his general health is suffering, and no prisoner with a sentence of over two months can now, under the new jail rules, be put on penal labour before the expiration of a month after his conviction. The fortnightly weighments are continued, and have resulted in many cases of failing health being discovered and dealt with, which would formerly have probably escaped observation until it had become really pronounced; and it is quite possible that the diminished death-rate may be due to the free admission into hospital, the prisoners at once receiving proper treatment. Special measures have been taken in specially unhealthy jails. The Chumparun Jail was removed to what it is hoped will prove a more healthy site; the Mymensingh jail has since the close of the year been so completely drained as to lower the level of the subsoil water by about seven feet, while in other jails, as already remarked, elevated barracks have been erected. The number of visits paid by official visitors, who are otherwise unconnected with the administration of the department, has very much increased, their special attention is directed to all matters connected with the health of the prisoners and the sanitary condition of the jails, and minute enquiries are made by them into all such subjects as diet, water-supply, and labour, &c. This can hardly fail to have a good effect. With the extensive improvements above adverted to, it is hoped that a diminution both in the sickness and mortality in the Bengal jails may be brought about in the current year.

Diet.

Elaborate rules on the subject of diet have been embodied in the new Jail Code, and medical officers are empowered to alter the diet scale and to make certain variations in it when necessary. Provision has also been made for the issue of anti-scorbutic fruit to the prisoners when necessary.

Alipore Reformatory School.

On the opening of the Reformatory School at Hazaribagh 25 boys were transferred to that institution from the school at Alipore, and to this cause is almost entirely attributable the decrease in the number of boys from 106 on the 1st January to 79 on the 31st December 1882. The total number of boys received, including those in the school at the commencement of the year, was 122. Of these 13 were released on the expiration of their sentences, 25 were transferred as stated above, 2 escaped, 1 died and 2 were released on attaining the age of 18, beyond which boys are not retained in the institution. The discipline of the boys was satisfactory, and their conduct generally good. There was a slight increase in the average number of punishments per boy, the average being 4·7 as compared with 3·5 in 1881. It however compares very favourably with the averages of 1880 and 1879, which were 6·7 and 11·8 respectively. Under

the mark system, by which each boy can by good work make one anna per week Rs. 82-11-6 were earned; and Rs. 71-3-0, earned by boys who were released, were withdrawn from the Alipore Savings Bank. A further sum of Rs. 62-8-0 was earned by boys for extra work. It was found to be a great stimulus to active and deserving boys to be allowed to do extra work. The year was on the whole a healthy one, though the average number of patients in hospital rose from 2·44 in 1881 to 2·9 during 1882. With two exceptions the cases were trivial. An enlarged spleen was the cause of the single death that occurred during the year. With a daily average of 94·5 inmates, the total expenditure in 1882 was Rs. 12,563-3-3, as compared with Rs. 12,452-5-9 in 1881, in which year the daily average number of inmates was 102·32. The expenditure per head rose from Rs. 122-1-1 in 1881 to Rs. 132-3-6 during the past year. The increase was due, it is stated, to the following causes: the smaller number of boys; the morning meal being given during the whole of the year, while in 1881 it was given during five months only; the increment of the Superintendent's salary; the larger amount paid to the trade instructors; and the higher prices of articles of diet. The progress made by the boys in the trades taught in the school was satisfactory. The workmanship of those employed on carpentry was highly commended, while the tin goods commanded a ready sale, and are, it is said, considered equal to imported goods. In blacksmith's work, canework and book-binding good progress was also made. The value of the goods manufactured amounted to Rs. 13,151 as compared with Rs. 8,517 in 1881. The net profits from the garden from the sale of vegetables not required for the inmates, were Rs. 325, as compared with Rs. 421 in 1881.

The reports received regarding the conduct of boys who had been released from the school were very satisfactory. Out of 28 boys reported on, only one was said to be living a dissolute life; the others were all doing well. The boy concerning whom a bad report was received was in the school less than two years, and for the greater part of this time was in hospital. He therefore did not get the full benefits of regular training and discipline, and to the want of this his misconduct after release may be attributed.

Hazaribagh Reformatory School.

A reformatory school was opened at Hazaribagh in September 1882 for the reception of boys from Behar, in order to relieve the Alipore school of some of its inmates, and to render more space available for juvenile offenders. The school worked satisfactorily during the portion of the year it was open.

Civil Justice.

High Court, Original Jurisdiction.

INCLUDING 616 cases instituted during the year, there were 1,308 suits for disposal on the Original side of the High Court in 1882, against 1,588 in 1881 and 1,652 in 1880. The number disposed of during 1882 was 586, against 896 in 1881 and 809 in 1880, the proportion of suits disposed of to the total number before the Court being 44·80, against 56·42 in 1881 and 48·97 in 1880. There were 722 suits pending at the close of the year, against 692 and 843 pending at the close of 1881 and 1880 respectively.

High Court, Appellate Jurisdiction.

The High Court sat on the Appellate side for 241 days in 1882, against 244 days in 1881, and disposed of 7,369 appeals and applications, as compared with 6,847 and 6,538 in 1881 and 1880 respectively; the number pending at the end of the year being 3,583, against 4,072 and 4,306 at the end of 1881 and 1880 respectively. The proportion of work undisposed of in 1882 was 32 per cent. of the whole work on the Appellate side of the High Court, against 37 per cent. in 1881 and 39 per cent. in 1880.

The number of first appeals from original decrees disposed of during the year was 417, of second appeals 3,285, of miscellaneous orders in Court 1,666, and of criminal cases 1,405. The number of first and second appeals and criminal cases amounted to 5,107, against 4,437 in 1881, or an increase of 670 cases, and the number of first and second appeals pending at the end of 1882 was 3,118, against 3,654 in 1881, or a decrease of 536 cases.

Calcutta Court of Small Causes.

There was again a falling off in the number of suits before the Calcutta Court of Small Causes, the institutions being 4,555 fewer than in 1881 and 5,751 fewer than in 1880, as shown below—

	Number of suits instituted.
1880	35,304
1881	34,108
1882	29,553

As compared with 1881, there was a decrease of 2,369 in suits up to Rs. 10 in value, of 1,900 in suits up to Rs. 50 in value, and of 365 in suits from Rs. 50 to Rs. 1,000 in value. On the other hand, there was an increase of 79 in suits exceeding Rs. 1,000 in value. Of these there were 168 cases in all, but as 34 of them were instituted prior to the 1st July 1882, on which date the Presidency Small Cause Court's Act (XV of 1882) came into force, the excess over Rs. 1,000 had to be abandoned in order to bring them within the then existing pecuniary jurisdiction of the Court, and they have accordingly been included in the number of suits below Rs. 1,000 in value. Between the 1st July and the 31st December 1882, 134 suits of this class were instituted. The amount in litigation during the year was Rs. 18,28,343, as compared with Rs. 17,28,960 in 1881.

The total number of cases for disposal in 1882 amounted to 30,886, of which 1,333 were cases pending from the previous year. Of these 29,[illegible] were disposed of, leaving 1,557 cases pending at the close of the year. There were 11,219 suits instituted on account of goods sold, against 13,175 in 1881; 4,426 suits on contract in writing, against 4,673 in 1881; 4,073 suits for wages, work and materials, against 4,397 in 1881; 3,079 suits on contracts not in writing; 2,948 suits for rent not falling under the Rent Law; 786 suits "on account

stated;" 563 suits for money had and received; 394 suits for moveable property or the value thereof; 525 suits for damages; 359 interpleader suits; and 1,181 suits not separately distinguished. There were also 368 cases disposed of during the year under the Distress Act of 1875, against 155 cases in 1881 and 102 in 1880.

The following statement shows the results of the suits of the past three years:—

How disposed of.	1880.		1881.		1882.	
For plaintiff after trial or reference to arbitration ...	5,441		5,185		4,397	
Ditto *ex parte* or on confession ...	10,266		9,326		8,141	
Compromised	13,062		12,586		11,040	
Nonsuited	2,444	Against plaintiff	2,398	Against plaintiff	1,641	Against plaintiff
Dismissed after trial or uncontested	1,304		1,483		1,406	
Ditto on default of plaintiff	3,083	6,831	3,085	6,966	2,704	5,751
Total ...	35,600		34,063		29,329	

The percentages of the cases in which the result was in favour of plaintiff during the years in question are given below:—

1880	80·8
1881	79·5
1882	80·3

The gross receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 2,77,111 and the expenditure to Rs. 2,10,410, the figures for the preceding year being Rs. 2,84,093 and Rs. 2,05,758 respectively. The net amount credited to the general revenues was Rs. 66,701, against Rs. 78,335 in 1881.

Courts in the interior.

The total numbers of the various descriptions of original civil suits instituted in the Courts in the interior during the year are shown in the following statement:—

Instituted in	Suits for money.	Under the Rent Law.	Other suits.	Total.
Small Cause Courts	53,602	155	460	54,217
Munsifs' ditto	153,013	159,018	33,667	345,698
Subordinate Judges' ditto	1,726	628	1,252	3,606
District ditto ditto	21	29	306	356
Revenue Courts	.....	2,881	.....	2,881
Courts in the Scheduled Districts	8,116	4,713	1,005	13,834
Total ...	216,478	167,424	36,690	420,592

The total number of cases under trial, and the number disposed of by the various classes of Courts, are shown below:—

Class of Courts.	Total of suits for disposal.	Total disposed of, omitting transfers.
Small Cause Courts	59,073	55,173
Munsifs' ditto	432,545	347,584
Subordinate Judges' ditto	6,225	4,126
District ditto ditto	647	356
Courts in the Scheduled Districts ...	15,023	13,662
Total ...	513,513	420,901
Revenue Courts, including those of the Scheduled Districts	15,030	10,809
Grand Total ...	528,543	431,710

Character of suits.

The following statement shows for the regular Courts (excluding the Courts in the Scheduled Districts) the percentage of suits of each class to the total amount of litigation in each of the last three years :—

	Total of 1880.	Total of 1881.	Total of 1882.	Percentage. 1880.	1881.	1882.
Suits for money, &c.	139,535	144,587	155,091	42·632	44·001	44·235
Rent suits	142,886	149,119	159,830	43·656	45·381	45·586
Suits for immoveable property	25,106	20,121	20,988	7·670	6·123	5·986
Suits for declaratory decrees	1,208	984	645	·369	·262	·183
Other suits under the Specific Relief Act ...	4,933	3,994	4,012	1·507	1·215	1·144
Suits to declare and establish rights to real property	7,234	6,429	6,532	2·210	1·955	1·863
Suits to declare and establish personal rights ...	964	657	703	·291	·119	·200
Suits for an account	521	449	314	·159	·136	·089
Suits relating to religious endowments ...	84	35	33	·025	·010	·009
Suits to set aside judgment, &c., on the ground of fraud	656	476	455	·200	·144	·121
Suits for dissolution of marriage	25	30	33	·007	·009	·009
Suits for enforcement of matrimonial rights ...	412	461	496	·125	·140	·141
Suits for partition	583	516	516	·178	·157	·147
Suits relative to shipping	1	5	1	.....	.....	.....
Suits relating to religion and caste	21	21	8	·006	·006	·002
Administration suits	6	4	3	·001	.....	.....
Interpleader suits	13	6	14	·003	·001	·003
Suits for dissolution of partnership	21	9	103	·006	·002	·029
Suits under section 261, Act X of 1865 ...	143	144	145	·043	·043	·041
Other suits not falling under any of the previous heads	2,946	545	684	·900	·165	·195
	327,298	328,592	350,606	.....	.....	.....

The following statement shows the suits instituted in Civil Courts (including the Courts in the Scheduled Districts) classified according to value :—

			No.
Not exceeding Rs.	10	... ...	88,492
Ditto „	50	... ...	205,242
Ditto „	100	... ...	65,615
Ditto „	500	... ...	48,446
Ditto „	1,000	... ...	4,775
Ditto „	5,000	... ...	3,423
Ditto „	10,000	... ...	420
Ditto „	1,00,000	... ...	267
Exceeding „	1,00,000	... ...	21

In addition, there were 541 suits the value of which cannot be estimated money.

Execution of decrees.

The following statement shows the results of decrees put in executi by the regular Civil Courts during the past tw years :—

Year.	Decrees executed. Completely.	Partially.	Amount realised. Rs.
1881	64,167	37,206	1,27,12,970
1882	70,046	43,979	1,37,30,738

Mofussil Courts of Small Causes.

The following statement shows the number of suits instituted and disposed of in the mofussil Courts of Small Causes during the last three years, omitting cases not tried under the summary procedure of the Courts :—

Cases.	1880.	1881.	1882.	Decrease since 1881.	Increase since 1881.
Instituted	57,316	54,637	53,271	1,366	
Disposed of	59,509	55,420	54,356	1,064	

A new Court of Small Causes was established at Bongong during 1882. This Court is included in the Kishnaghur group of Courts of Small Causes which now consists of Kishnaghur, Ranaghat and Bongong; and the Meherpore Court, which formerly belonged to the Kishnaghur group, has been attached to the Kooshtea group, which now consists of Kooshtea, Chooadangah and Meherpore. In three groups of Courts there was a decrease in the number of suits instituted, viz. in the Magoorah group of Courts (1,587), in the Kooshtea group (570) and in the Dacca and Moonshigunge group (442). There was also a decrease of 1,222 in the Backergunge Court of Small Causes. On the other hand, there was an increase of 976 cases in Cuttack, of 778 in Hooghly, of 618 in the Kishnaghur group and of 334 in the Bhagulpore and Monghyr group. The increase in the Kishnaghur group was only nominal, and was due to the establishment of the new Court at Bongong.

Appellate Courts.

The following statement shows the work done by the Appellate Courts during 1882:—

Courts in the Interior.	Total number of appeals for decision.	Total number of appeals disposed of, omitting transfers.
Appeals from decrees—		
Subordinate Judges' Courts	17,491	13,027
District ditto ditto	31,102	9,310
Revenue Courts	493	390
Courts in the Scheduled Districts ...	862	811
Total ...	49,948	23,538
Miscellaneous appeals—		
Subordinate Judges' Courts	529	413
District ditto ditto	1,793	1,416
Revenue Courts	74	68
Courts in the Scheduled Districts... ...	41	38
Total ...	2,437	1,935
Grand Total ...	52,385	25,473
Courts at the Presidency.		
High Court.		
Appeals from original decrees—		
From decisions by Courts in the interior ...	879	402
Ditto on the Original side ...	63	37
Appeals from appellate decrees—		
From decisions by Appellate Courts in the interior	5,613	3,050
Ditto by a single Judge or bench on appeal in the High Court	116	109
Total ...	6,671	3,598
Miscellaneous appeals—		
First appeals—		
From decisions by Courts in the interior ...	316	197
Second appeals—		
From decisions by Appellate Courts in the interior	207	152
Total ...	523	349
Grand Total ...	7,194	3,947

Divisional Appellate Benches.

The experimental introduction into the Lower Provinces of the scheme proposed in 1877 for the establishment of Divisional Appellate Benches was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in a despatch dated the 22nd February 1883. For the present only four such benches are to be constituted, and the details of the measure are now under consideration.

Training of Covenanted Civilians for the Judicial Branch of the Service.

The scheme for the training of officers of the Covenanted Civil Service who had elected the Judicial Branch of the Service, by vesting them with civil powers and allowing them to dispose of civil cases, is still on its trial; it is probable, however, that considerable modifications will have to be introduced even if it be not wholly abandoned, for as at present worked it appears to give rise to more administrative inconvenience than is at all commensurate with the advantages which were expected to be derived from it.

Rent-suit Courts.

The system under which rent suits and petty suits of the Small Cause Court class are tried by specially selected officers of the Munsif class seems to have met with considerable success and to have secured the approval of the litigating public, while it has resulted in the more speedy disposal of cases of these descriptions.

Registration.

DURING the three years preceding 1882-83 there had been a gradual decrease in the work of the Department. But in the past year there was a revived activity, the number of registrations having exceeded by 18,057, or 3·36 per cent. the number in the preceding year, and this notwithstanding the fact that the number of offices open was less by two than in 1881-82. There was an increase both under the head of compulsory registrations affecting immoveable property, and under the head of optional registrations affecting property of the same kind. The increase under the latter was, however, very much more marked than that under the former, amounting to 14,046 operations, or 10·6 per cent., whilst under compulsory registrations it only amounted to 3,786 operations, or 1·24 per cent. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 9,48,104, and the expenditure to Rs. 4,95,180. The net surplus was Rs. 4,52,924, or more than Rs. 36,000 in excess of the surplus of last year, and more than Rs. 31,000 above that of any previous year.

The following statement shows the number of registrations, the receipts and expenditure, and the number of offices in existence in each of the last 18 years:—

YEAR.	NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS.				Total receipts.	Total expenditure.	Surplus.	Number of registration offices.
	Affecting immoveable property.		Other registrations.	Total.				
	Compulsory.	Optional.						
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1865-66	49,910	20,590	27,683	98,183	3,25,089	2,25,966	99,123	178
1866-67	101,422	49,346	31,391	182,159	3,19,754	2,25,951	93,803	182
1867-68	119,700	41,335	26,815	187,850	3,34,956	2,50,181	84,775	187
1868-69 ...	125,435	42,794	45,739	213,968	3,67,271	2,99,099	68,172	172
1869-70	160,920	52,034	39,239	252,193	4,13,707	3,14,834	98,873	173
1870-71	159,963	49,862	31,888	241,713	3,88,688	3,11,825	76,863	180
1871-72	158,077	55,431	31,762	245,270	3,73,136	2,80,961	92,175	156
1872-73	174,788	67,130	37,162	279,080	4,35,319	3,04,782	1,30,537	168
1873-74	203,519	79,409	45,441	328,369	4,82,509	3,29,431	1,53,078	221
1874-75	250,340	98,970	74,563	423,873	5,52,325	3,86,953	1,65,372	246
1875-76	265,265	106,629	85,757	457,651	5,56,505	4,17,402	1,39,103	290
1876-77	268,125	104,436	93,013	465,574	5,66,882	4,30,168	1,36,714	310
1877-78	312,022	121,842	116,405	550,269	6,64,236	4,57,355	2,06,881	309
1878-79	349,094	136,121	113,936	599,151	8,70,497	4,90,966	3,79,531	295
1879-80	337,524	147,610	123,975	609,109	9,11,057	4,97,962	4,13,095	292
1880-81	317,877	133,899	104,457	556,233	9,16,681	5,21,209	3,95,472	297
1881-82	303,823	132,475	100,786	537,084	9,11,920	4,98,514	4,13,406	287
1882-83	307,609	146,521	101,011	555,141	9,48,104	4,95,180	4,52,924	285
Increase ...	3,786	14,046	225	18,057	36,184	.....	39,518	.....
Decrease ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,334	.....	2

The number of compulsory and optional registrations regarding immoveable property, as well as the number of other registrations effected during 1882-83, as compared with the operations in 1881-82 and in 1880-81, are shown below:—

REGISTRATIONS AFFECTING IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY.

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Compulsory.			
Instruments of sale, &c., of immoveable property of value Rs. 100 and upwards	37,890	38,022	41,337
Instruments of mortgage of immoveable property of value Rs. 100 and upwards	44,939	42,787	44,798
Perpetual leases	102,512	74,639	70,764
Term leases under section 17	125,195	140,287	141,156
Other compulsory registrations	7,341	8,088	9,554
Total compulsory registrations affecting immoveable property ...	317,877	303,823	307,609
Optional.			
Instruments of sale, &c., of immoveable property of value less than Rs. 100	78,511	80,244	89,269
Instruments of mortgage of immoveable property of value less than Rs. 100	46,015	42,655	46,084
Leases for one year and less	4,485	3,890	4,534
Miscellaneous documents	4,888	5,686	6,634
Total optional registrations affecting immoveable property ...	133,899	132,475	146,521
Total registrations affecting immoveable property ...	451,776	436,298	454,130

REGISTRATIONS OTHER THAN THOSE AFFECTING IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY.

Obligations for payment of money	78,965	73,308	69,351
All other registrations	23,772	25,696	29,741
Total of above	102,737	99,004	99,092
Number of Wills registered	1,689	1,756	1,891
Ditto of written authorities	31	26	28
Total registrations ...	556,233	537,084	555,141

The largest increase was under the head of optional registrations of instruments of sale, &c., of immoveable property of value less than Rs. 100, the number of such registrations exceeding by 9,025 the number registered in 1881-82, and by 10,758 the number registered in the preceding year. The number of registrations of similar instruments relating to property of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards exceeded the number registered in 1881-82 and 1880-81 by 3,315 and 3,447 respectively. Instruments of mortgage of immoveable property of value less than Rs. 100 increased by 3,429, as compared with the number registered in the preceding year, while the number of registrations of those relating to property of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards increased by 2,011. Looking at the figures as a whole, the number of registrations relating to immoveable property amounted to 81·8 per cent. of the total number of operations as compared with 81·2 per cent. in each of the two preceding years. Optional registrations relating to immoveable property increased considerably, the number of such operations exceeding that in the preceding year by 14,046, or 10·6 per cent. The total increase in the number of optional registrations of all kinds of instruments amounted to 14,271, or 6·11 per cent. The number of obligations for payment of money or bonds decreased by 3,957, only 69,351 having been registered during the past year, as compared with 73,308 in 1881-82. In the following eight districts there were more than 20,000 registrations:—Jessore (60,013), 24-Pergunnahs (37,336), Backergunge (37,150), Chittagong (25,637), Midnapore (24,349), Noakholly (22,610), Furreedpore (22,527) and Tipperah (21,157). In 1881-82 there were also more than 20,000 registrations in all these districts, as well as in Mymensingh; but during the past year there were only 18,031 in the latter district. In five districts the number of registrations was less than 3,000, while of these the number in Darjeeling and Singbhoom, though below 500, was larger than in the preceding year

Leases.

The number of leases of various kinds registered during the past year, as compared with the number in each of the two years which preceded it, was—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Perpetual leases	102,512	74,639	70,764
Other compulsory leases (term leases)	125,195	140,287	141,156
Leases for one year or less	4,485	3,890	4,534
Total ...	232,192	218,816	216,454

Perpetual leases.

The falling off in the number of perpetual leases, which was observed last year, has continued, though the decrease was less marked; the increase of term leases for periods exceeding a year has also continued, though the difference is even less than the difference between the two years in perpetual leases. The six districts in which during 1881-82 the largest number of perpetual leases were registered again show the same result, and stand in the same order. They were the following:—

	1881-82.	1882-83.
Chittagong	17,221	15,803
Jessore	16,119	11,881
Backergunge	12,150	11,180
Furreedpore	5,784	6,221
24-Pergunnahs	5,359	4,619
Noakholly	3,763	3,931
Total ...	60,396	53,635

The following table shows the number of each kind of lease registered in the different provinces in Lower Bengal:—

	Perpetual leases.	Term leases.	Short leases.	Total.
Bengal	68,362	99,836	3,303	171,501
Behar	1,144	35,961	975	38,080
Orissa	84	1,663	35	1,782
Chota Nagpore	1,174	3,696	221	5,091
Total	70,764	141,156	4,534	216,454

Throughout the country generally the system of perpetual leases, so far as can be ascertained from the operations of the Registration Department, appears to be decreasing slowly but steadily, though it is difficult to determine the exact cause. All that can safely be inferred is that landlords are generally averse to parting with their interest in the land, and that only needy or embarrassed proprietors resort to the granting of these leases. A number of reasons for the decrease are adduced; the greater solvency of landlords in consequence of a good harvest having enabled them to collect their rents, and hence the absence of any necessity to grant perpetual leases in order to obtain the ready money afforded by the *salami*; the dislike felt by proprietors to part with the khas management of their estates and become mere annuitants; the fact that zemindars are becoming alive to the bad effects of sub-infeudation, and that ryots are unwilling to bind themselves down to the payment of a fixed rent which deprives them of the concessions they usually obtain in other cases for contingencies of season; and so forth. All these causes are possibly at work, and partly explain the decrease; but the principal cause most probably is that neither landlord nor tenant is willing to bind himself in perpetuity by any agreement so long as there is uncertainty as to the final form which the rent laws will take.

Term leases.

The total number of term leases for periods exceeding one year registered during the past year was 141,156, as compared with 140,287 in the preceding year. There was a decrease of 3,733 in the number of such leases registered in Bengal Proper, and of 78 in Chota Nagpore, while there was an increase of 4,460 in the number registered in Behar and of 220 in Orissa. Though this increase in the aggregate was not large, it is sufficient to show a continued recourse to registration of term leases, and it may be now accepted as a fact that the removal by Act I of 1879 of the exemption from stamp

duty of certain kinds of cultivators' leases has not had the prejudicial effect on the registration of such documents which was anticipated. Of the total number of leases, other than perpetual leases, those under Rs. 25 in value amounted to 71·66 of the whole, whilst their average value was only Rs. 9·1. Among documents of this class is one called a *chitty*, registered in Chittagong, which is in effect a lease for life, as it confers no title upon the heir of the grantee. It appears to be usually granted by persons to relatives or others, on whom it is wished to confer personal favours.

Proportion of leases to counterparts.

The proportion of leases to counterparts, which during 1880-81 and 1881-82 had been decreasing somewhat rapidly, showed a slight increase in 1882-83, as compared with the previous year, the proportion being 26·78 per cent., as compared with 26·66 in 1881-82. In Orissa there was a slight decrease from 25·67 in 1881-82 to 25·45 during the past year. In the other three provinces there was an increase—in Bengal Proper from 20·45 to 22·97, in Behar from 43·82 to 48·11 and in Chota Nagpore from 55·23 to 56. The highest percentage was 88·1 in Chumparun, and the lowest, as in the preceding year, in Mymensingh, in which district the proportion only amounted to 4·34 per cent.

Sales and mortgages.

There was an increase of 3,315 in the number of deeds of sale of immoveable property of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards registered during the year, 41,337 such instruments having been registered during the past year, as compared with 38,022 registered in 1881-82. The increase was general, and was made up of small increases in 36 districts; no doubt in some districts a partial failure of some of the crops was the principal cause of the increase, as well as of the increase of 2,011 in the number of deeds of mortgage of immoveable property of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards.

Statement showing the nature, number, and value of estates and tenures transferred.

The statement showing the nature, number, and value of the estates and tenures transferred during the year has for the present been discontinued under the orders of Government. It was found that in consequence of the inclusion of estates and tenures which, under exceptional circumstances, were disposed of for either excessively large or abnormally small amounts, the returns were so affected as to be misleading so far as regarded the number of years' purchase, and were not worth the expenditure of time and labour involved in collecting statistics on these points. Information regarding the number of years' purchase for which ryoti holdings at fixed rates and with rights of occupancy are sold is valuable, and the returns as regards these holdings will be continued in the original form. In the case of other tenures or holdings the number of years' purchase will not in future be given, and only the purchase-money and the occupation of the purchaser will be entered, in order to show whether land is merely being transferred from one zemindar to another, or is passing to any considerable extent into the hands of the non-agricultural classes, or into those of the intermediate tenure-holders, or of the ryots.

Optional registrations.

There was an increase from 231,479 optional registrations in 1881-82 to 245,613 such registrations in the past year. Instruments of sale of property of less than Rs. 100 in value increased by 9,025, while deeds of mortgages of property of similar value increased by 3,429. Throughout Bengal and Behar the increase was fairly general. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs there was a considerable decrease under both these heads. This is attributed to the ruling of the Civil Courts restricting the sale of cultivating tenancies. A similar decrease is also observable in that district in the number of deeds of sale and mortgage of immoveable property of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards, which is doubtless assignable to the same cause.

Money bonds.

There was a decrease of 3,957 in the number of money bonds registered, only 69,351 having been registered during the past year, as compared with 73,308 during the preceding year. There has been a gradual decrease in the number of bonds registered since 1879-80, in which year the number amounted to 99,576, the most marked decrease being in the year 1880-81, when 20,611 fewer bonds were registered than in the preceding year. Although on the whole there was a small decrease during the past year, yet the

number of bonds registered in 30 districts exceeded the number registered in those districts during the year 1881-82. In Jessore, however, there was a large decrease. In this district, including that portion of Khoolna which was, during 1881-82, a part of it, the number registered during 1882-83 was only 28,524, or less by 6,305 than the number registered during the preceding year. Looking to the excessively large number of bonds hitherto registered in Jessore, as compared with the number in other districts, it is possible that this has been due to some misconception having existed in the minds of the people as to the requirements of the law as far as it relates to bonds: if so, a further decrease will be the almost certain result of their enlightenment.

Minor and miscellaneous operations.

The number of Wills registered during the past year was 1,891, as compared with 1,756 in the preceding year. The number of general powers-of-attorney authenticated during 1882-83 was 4,594, as compared with 4,433 in 1881-82, while the number of special powers-of attorney authenticated in the two years was 2,538 and 2,474 respectively. The number of written authorities to adopt was small, only 28 being registered during the year. Registration was refused in 2,846 cases, as compared with 2,963 in the preceding year. There were 270 appeals and applications under sections 72 and 73 of the Act, as compared with 329 during 1881-82, and of these registration was ordered in 160 and refused in 110. In only 9·48 per cent. of the cases in which registration was originally refused were appeals preferred against the orders. The number of documents impounded during the past year amounted to 2,303, as compared with 2,031 and 832 impounded in 1881-82 and 1880-81 respectively. Of these, the stamps were found to be incorrect in 1,854 cases and correct in 377; the other cases were pending at the close of the year. There was a marked improvement, as compared with the preceding year, in the time taken in adjudicating such cases, and the small number pending at the close of the year contrasts most favourably with the balance pending at the end of 1881-82. There were 85 prosecutions instituted under the Act, and of 119 persons concerned in these cases, 67 were convicted and 52 were acquitted.

Finance.

The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 9,48,104, as compared with Rs. 9,11,920 in 1881-82, while the expenditure decreased from Rs. 4,98,514 to Rs. 4,95,180, the surplus being Rs. 4,52,924, as compared with Rs. 4,13,406 in the preceding year. From this amount must, however, be deducted the book debt of Rs. 59,920 for stationery, printed registers and printing charges, the net surplus for the year being Rs. 3,93,004, as compared with Rs. 3,58,269 in 1881-82. The system under which Rural Sub-Registrars are remunerated by commission on a sliding scale continues to work satisfactorily.

Number of offices: number of inspections.

The total number of offices open at the close of the year was 285, as compared with 287 at the close of 1881-82. Four rural offices, in which the work done was very small, were abolished during the year, while two new ones were opened. In accordance with the policy regarding the conversion of sub-divisional registration offices into rural offices, nine offices were so converted during the year. The number of registration offices inspected during the year was 868, as compared with 936 in 1881-82. There were 347 stamp-inspections as compared with 398 in 1881-82.

Registration of Mahomedan Marriages.

The operations under the Mahomedan Marriage Registration Act for the last seven years are given in the following table:—

Year.	Number of districts in which the Act was in force.	Number of offices open on the 31st March.	Number of marriages registered.	Number of divorces registered other than *kholas*.	Number of *kholas* registered.	Total number of ceremonies registered.
1876-77	14	77	2,555	402	161	3,118
1877-78	14	103	7,391	1,404	595	9,390
1878-79	14	103	8,161	1,705	771	10,637
1879-80	14	107	7,137	2,097	623	9,857
1880-81	14	106	5,777	1,874	779	[illegible]
1881-82	14	107	4,951	2,239	667	7,[illegible]
1882-83	14	112	5,068	2,247	766	8,081

Compared with the very large Mahomedan population in the 14 districts in which the Act is in force, the results, though slightly better than during the preceding year, were not very satisfactory. In only two out of the seven years since the Act was passed have the operations been less than during the past year. There can be no doubt that the people care little for the Act, and do not avail themselves of its provisions. Whether this is to be attributed to a want of confidence in, or respect for, the Mahomedan Registrars, or to an unwillingness on the part of the people to go to the trouble and expense of registration, or to both, the fact remains that the Act is all but inoperative in five out of the fourteen districts. The Committee appointed to revise the rules and procedure under the Act is still sitting in Calcutta, and on the receipt of its report it may be possible to adopt measures which will make the Act more popular; but the general apathy of the people is against any voluntary resort to registration. Looking to the results in the districts in which the Act is at present in force, it does not appear desirable to extend its operations at present. The number of marriages registered during the past year was 5,068, as compared with 4,951 in the preceding year, and 766 *khola* and 2,247 other divorces were registered, as compared with 667 and 2,239 respectively in 1881-82; the total number of ceremonies registered being 8,081, as compared with 7,857 in the preceding year. There were 112 offices open at the close of the year, as compared with 107 at the close of 1881-82. The number of inspections made was 106, the registers were found to be in good order, and the conduct of the Mahomedan Marriage Registrars was satisfactory.

The Indian Companies' Act.

During the year 37 new Companies were registered, with an aggregate nominal capital of Rs. 1,60,63,000, as against 19 with a nominal capital of Rs. 47,05,000 registered in 1881-82. Of the 37 new companies, 13 are tea companies with an aggregate capital of Rs. 25,77,000, four are companies for the manufacture of ice, with a capital of Rs. 5,40,000, two for spinning cotton, with a capital of Rs. 27,50,000, one for the manufacture of paper, with a capital of Rs. 6,00,000, one for pressing jute, with a capital of Rs. 5,00,000, two for curing and tanning leather, with a capital of Rs. 3,50,000, and the remaining 14 are for various miscellaneous purposes, with an aggregate capital of Rs. 87,46,000. Of the 13 tea companies under notice, nine carry on their business in Julpigoree, two in Darjeeling and two in Assam. Eleven companies increased their capital during the year. Their aggregate original capital was Rs. 57,48,000, and the amount added was Rs. 20,70,000. The Indian Portland Cement Company, Limited, the Darjeeling and Himalayan Railway Company and the Howrah Mills Company have added large sums to their original capital. The Calcutta Steam Navigation Company, Limited, was registered during the year with a nominal capital of Rs. 1,50,000, which was increased to Rs. 4,50,000 in two instalments within four months of the date of incorporation. Only one company, viz. the Great Eastern Hotel Company, Limited, reduced its capital during the year to 12,00,000; the original capital having been Rs. 15,00,000. During the past year five companies were finally dissolved and seven commenced winding up their business. There was no registration of literary, scientific or charitable societies during the year under report. There were altogether 470 Joint Stock Companies registered up to the end of March 1883, of which 220 are still in existence, including two Companies registered without any capital—one under Act XXI of 1860 (Literary and Scientific Society), the other (The Calcutta Trades' Association) under section 26 of Act VI of 1882. There was no prosecution under the Act during the year under report.

Municipal Administration.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

Change of year of report.

By Act I (B.C.) of 1882, the Calcutta Municipal year has been made to coincide with the official year, from the 1st April to the 31st March, instead of, as formerly, the calendar year. This change was introduced during the year under review, and the Municipal report on which this review of the administration of the Calcutta Municipality is based relates to a period of fifteen months, from the 1st January 1882 to the 31st March 1883.

The general election.

The third general election of Commissioners, held under the Calcutta Municipal Act IV (B.C) of 1876, took place during the year under review, the period for which the body of Commissioners was appointed at the election of 1879 having expired in September 1882. There was a marked growth of public interest evinced on the occasion, showing the increasing desire of the people of Calcutta to take a part in the management of the affairs of their city. Both in the increase in the gross number of votes recorded—an increase as compared with 1879 of upwards of 80 per cent—and in the keenness of the competition for seats in some of the wards, there is evidence that the political pulse of Calcutta has been decidedly quickened by six years of municipal freedom. Nor is this all. An inspection of the lists of elected Commissioners shows that of those who held office prior to the election of 1882, twenty-two were re-elected and twenty-six either were not candidates or were rejected by the constituencies. From the table of attendances at committee meetings which is attached to the Municipal Report, it appears that of those Commissioners who were re-elected, all but four were conspicuous for their industry and attention to municipal work, while of the twenty-six who have found no place in the new Corporation, only four seem to have given any considerable portion of their time to their duties as Commissioners. This is an encouraging sign of the desire on the part of the people to secure the best men as their representatives, and shows that a seat at the Municipal Board is neither sought by candidates nor conferred by the rate-payers as a mere honorary distinction, but is regarded by both alike as a position which involves real duties and substantial responsibilities.

Meetings of the Commissioners.

Thirty-seven general meetings were held during the year, of which 24 were special general meetings. The number of meetings held by the various standing committees was 129, including 51 meetings of the Town Council, 10 of the Water-supply Extension Committee, and 17 of the Bustee Committee. Four Special Committees were appointed during the year. These were the Conservancy Committee of 1882, which held ten meetings; the Sanitary Committee appointed to consider the memorial presented to the Lieutenant-Governor by a number of influential residents of Calcutta; the Budget Committee, and the Souttar Memorial Committee. The total number of attendances at meetings aggregated 3,292 out of 6,223 invitations during the 15 months, showing an appreciable increase over the figures of 1881. The increase was slightly greater among the nominated than among the elected Commissioners.

Street improvements.

Various structural improvements in the streets of the town were effected during the year, some from capital, some from the regular Town Improvement (Revenue) Fund, and some from other revenue funds. For the former, the money was chiefly

found by the sale of surplus lands, and of the out-offices of the Town Hall. Among the lands so disposed of, was a portion of the old Mahratta Ditch, but the question has been raised whether any portion of the ditch is the legal property of the Commissioners, and if so, whether it is advisable that a site of such historical interest and importance should be obliterated. This matter is now under the consideration of Government. A part of the sum realized by the sale of the surplus lands was, at the instance of the Town Council, devoted to acquiring lands for the purpose of widening the Chitpore road. A grant of Rs. 60,000 had been made by Government for this purpose from the assets of the old Fire-Brigade Fund, and a further assignment of equal amount had been provided in the Municipal Budget. It was found, however, that the cost of carrying out this important scheme in its original comprehensive form was practically prohibitive; and the funds originally provided were supplemented by the appropriation of Rs. 50,000 out of the sale-proceeds of municipal lands already mentioned. The Commissioners completed during the year the widening of the road for a length of 700 feet between Burtollah and Machooa Bazar Street. The widening of Nimtollah Street and of Dharmahatta Street at its junction with the Strand Road was effected at a cost of Rs. 19,858, out of the proceeds of the sale to Government of the out-offices of the Town Hall. These two important thoroughfares, which formerly tapered at their orifices, causing almost incessant blocks among the gorged cart traffic, have now fine wide entrances in which blocks no longer occur.

General street improvements at a cost of Rs. 46,241 were effected out of revenue. One of these,—the widening of Sikdarparah Street at a cost of Rs. 10,954,—has met a great want by substituting a carriage road westwards from Chitpore Road for the narrow foot-path which previously existed. The surplus of the Hackney Carriage Fund, supplemented by a grant of Rs. 2,721 from the General Fund,—in all Rs. 20,981,—was expended on new hackney-carriage stands, properly paved and drained.

Miscellaneous proceedings of the Town Council.

Among the miscellaneous matters which were dealt with by the Town Council during the year, were the passing of rules to regulate the licensing of depôts for the sale of straw, hay, and timber; the proposed establishment of a Central Railway station; the establishment and maintenance of water-troughs for cattle; the quality of the gas supplied by the Oriental Gas Company; and the disposal of arrear rate-bills. These bills had been accumulating from 1876 down to the second quarter of 1879, and the labours of the Sub-Committee resulted in the cancellation of bills aggregating Rs. 3,86,170. This is a heavy loss to the Municipality, for although a large part of the amount represented bills made or sent out in error, a substantial part represented perfectly good and realizable assets, which would have been recovered had ordinary promptitude been used in collecting them. These facts afford the strongest condemnation of the manner in which the finances of the Corporation were managed in the three years immediately following the establishment of the present system of municipal administration.

The year under review witnessed the settlement of the question of increasing the supply of filtered water and extending it to the Suburbs. This important question had formed the subject of protracted negotiations between the Government, the Commissioners, and the Suburban Municipality, and it has now been finally arranged that the increased supply shall be provided by means of an iron main from Pultah, forty-eight inches in diameter, and capable of supplying 12 million gallons per diem, of which eight millions will be reserved for the Town and four millions will be available for the Suburbs. The price at which the Suburban Municipality are to receive their water will, if necessary, be settled by arbitration.

Finances of the Municipality.

At the end of 1881 the total debt of the Corporation amounted to Rs. 1,44,14,777, against which was a sinking fund valued at Rs. 20,12,507. The net indebtedness of the Municipality at the beginning of the period under review was therefore Rs. 1,24,02,270. During the year, Rs. 9,50,500 was borrowed on two occasions. On the other hand, the Government debt was reduced by Rs. 1,50,754, and the value of the sinking fund was raised to Rs. 23,31,145, or by Rs. 3,18,638. On the 31st March 1882, therefore, the net indebtedness

of the Corporation amounted to Rs. 1,28,83,378. The loans raised during the year were required partly for works to be executed from capital, and partly for the cost of the new out-fall sewer. They were raised at 4½ per cent., being the first loans raised by the Corporation at less than 5 per cent., and were taken up at an average premium of Rs. 2-3-9. Although during the last 3¼ years the Corporation has borrowed in all Rs. 12,00,500, the net municipal debt has practically remained stationary, having been Rs. 1,28,78,770 on the 1st January 1880.

The following statement shows the revenue of the Municipality during 1882-83 compared with that of 1881 :—

	Actuals for 1882.	Actuals for 3 months of 1883.	Total.	Actuals for 1881.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
House-rate	9,65,698	2,48,890	12,14,588	9,96,496
Taxes	4,50,186	69,430	5,19,616	4,19,148
Fees	8,916	2,246	11,162	6,362
Fines and penalties	22,929	4,668	27,597	31,657
Road Department receipts	31,527	1,352	32,879	5,619
Street-watering	72	.....	72	.....
Conservancy Department receipts	46,947	7,467	54,414	30,871
Municipal Railway	3,170	1,054	4,224	285
New drainage	14,647	2,461	17,108	7,601
Night-soil Department	2,24,191	57,726	2,81,917	2,44,158
Slaughter-house	40,774	10,267	51,041	38,916
Municipal Market receipts	1,08,416	31,477	1,39,893	1,05,497
Hospitals and Vaccination	663	200	863	709
Rents	34,385	11,661	46,046	26,437
Sale of lands and building materials, &c.	.....	1,919	1,919	.....
Miscellaneous receipts	13,208	2,674	15,882	24,094
Total General Fund income ...	19,65,729	4,53,492	24,19,221	19,38,750
Water-rate	4,05,107	1,04,576	5,09,683	3,80,050
Sale of water	86,741	22,280	1,09,021	78,884
Water-supply miscellaneous receipts	3,648	1,600	5,248	5,835
Total Water-rate Fund income ...	4,95,496	1,28,456	6,23,952	4,64,769
Lighting-rate Fund receipts...	2,45,897	63,906	3,09,803	2,46,831
GRAND TOTAL OF INCOME ...	27,07,122	6,45,854	33,52,976	26,50,350

The receipts of the Police-rate Fund, Hackney Carriage Fund, and Jute and Fire-brigade Fund which are separately brought to account have been excluded. The two last-named funds have now been closed. The receipts of the Municipality for 1881 included one quarter's collections of the house-rate at the higher rate of 8 per cent.; whereas during the period embraced by the present report this was levied throughout at 7½ per cent. Night-soil fees also were levied at a lower rate during 1882-83, and a reduction of Rs. 30,000 was thus caused in the demand. Notwithstanding this, however, and in spite of the fact that the house-rate receipts of the previous year were swollen by the recovery of arrears aggregating Rs. 15,000 which had no counterpart in the past year, the total collections of 1882 (twelve months) exceeded those of 1881 by Rs. 26,979. This satisfactory result was due partly to greater promptitude in realizing the current demand, partly to increased license receipts in consequence of the demand for the first three months of 1883 being made payable in advance, and partly to the higher rents paid by the Tramway Company. The *bonâ fide* growth of revenue is estimated at about Rs. 49,000 for the twelve months of 1882.

The following table shows the expenditure of the Municipality during the year 1882-83 :—

	Actuals for 1882.	Actuals for 3 months of 1883.	Total.	Actuals for 1881.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Interest on loans	3,64,689	1,83,926	5,48,615	5,21,284
Contribution towards sinking fund and repayment of loans...	1,30,459	1,00,286	2,30,745	1,93,875
Establishment	2,01,588	50,550	2,52,138	1,93,414
Cost of collection	33,775	9,331	43,106	34,271
General expenditure	50,592	14,482	65,074	55,387
Road Department expenditure	2,52,323	74,965	3,27,288	2,73,073
Street-watering	50,536	16,512	67,048	54,051
Gowkhannah charges	1,00,386	32,838	1,33,224	1,15,558
Conservancy charges of the Town	73,267	21,584	94,851	65,730
Municipal Railway	81,622	17,628	99,250	66,584
Drainage Pumping Station	31,288	7,586	38,874	32,997
Salt-water Lakes	31,215	4,255	35,470	19,373
House drainage	6,475	1,283	7,758	4,023
Burning Ghât charges	408	116	524	842
Night-soil Department	1,31,321	31,943	1,63,264	1,35,404
Slaughter-house	13,032	2,952	15,984	12,887
Municipal markets	23,239	6,799	30,038	22,776
Hospitals and Vaccination	5,927	31,068	36,995	42,974
Town Hall	3,626	1,070	4,696	4,901
Miscellaneous	85,799	31,627	1,17,426	1,60,869
Total expenditure of General Fund ...	16,71,567	6,40,801	23,12,368	20,10,213
WATER-RATE FUND.				
Interest on loans	1,06,690	94,556	2,01,246	2,03,461
Contribution towards sinking fund and repayment of loans ...	49,125	47,510	96,635	90,069
Establishment	83,702	21,017	1,04,719	81,569
Cost of collections	6,044	1,747	7,791	5,744
General expenditure	6,359	2,034	8,393	7,603
Working expenses	98,421	20,934	1,39,266	1,07,180
Charges for supply of water to shipping, &c.	19,914	4,431	24,345	16,645
Total expenditure of Water-rate Fund ...	3,70,255	2,12,140	5,82,395	5,12,871
LIGHTING-RATE.				
Lighting lamps	2,11,285	58,032	2,69,317	2,27,150
Cost of new lamps	4,085	1,368	5,453	2,949
Cost of collections	3,413	973	4,385	3,441
Supervision and contingencies	4,995	1,226	6,220	5,181
Total expenditure of Lighting-rate Fund ..	2,23,778	61,599	2,85,377	2,38,721
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	22,65,600	9,14,540	31,80,140	27,61,805

The total expenditure during 1882 amounted to Rs. 22,65,600 against Rs. 27,61,805 in 1881, while in the whole 15 months, from the 1st January 1882 to the 31st March 1883, the total expenditure was Rs. 1,80,000 less than the estimate, and Rs. 1,06,853 less than the receipts. It is explained, however, that the amounts actually falling due and paid within the first quarter of 1883 on account of interest and sinking fund were less by about Rs. 1,33,000 than the proportionate share for that period of the corresponding charges for the whole year. The general fund, therefore, ended the 15 months virtually poorer by Rs. 26,000, though nominally richer than on the 1st January 1882. The expenditure, however, was considerably below the estimate, and it is a satisfactory feature of the operations of the year that almost all the savings occurred in current expenditure, while the grants were exceeded on works of improvement. The receipts of the Water-rate Fund aggregated Rs. 6,23,952 for the 15 months. Of this sum, Rs. 4,95,496 was collected during 1882, being Rs. 30,727 in excess of the collections of 1881. The disbursements, however, added to the proportionate share of interest and sinking fund charges, exceeded the receipts by Rs. 28,000. This rate is levied at 3 per cent. on the annual valuation against a possible maximum of 6 per cent. The lighting-rate, which is levied at the maximum rate of 2 per cent., showed a small excess of receipts over expenditure. The Police-rate Fund also showed an increase in the net balance at the close of the year of more than Rs. 20,000, although the rate was reduced in 1882 from 2½ to 2¼ per cent. This result is satisfactory. The old Jute Warehouse and Fire-Brigade Fund was closed shortly after the end of the period under review, under the operation of Act IV (B.C.) of 1882.

The receipts under the head of license fees aggregated Rs. 6,12,377 during the 15 months. Of this amount, Rs. 4,96,798 was on account of 1882, against Rs. 4,87,659 collected in 1881. Trade and profession licenses yielded Rs. 3,25,116, carriage and horse licenses Rs. 1,26,733, trade refuse fees Rs 44,108, hackney carriage registry fees Rs. 16,624, and cart registration fees Rs. 98,933. There was an increase of two in the number of Joint-stock Companies, of 258 among traders, and of 2,422 among shop-keepers of all

kinds, while the number of merchants fell from 1,774 to 1,760, and of itinerant dealers from 7,262 to 5,914. The collections under this head for 1882 amounted to Rs. 2,63,406. The number of carts registered rose from 18,095 to 19,732, the receipts being largely in excess of those of 1881. The increase is said to be mainly due to the greater commercial activity that prevailed throughout the past year. The number of first and second class hackney carriages registered during the year increased, but there was a falling off in the number of third-class carriages and palankeens, owing to the further extension of the tramway.

Sanitary condition of the Town. Water-supply.

The sanitary state of the Town received an unusually large share of public attention during the year, and the alleged prevalence of conditions at variance with the laws of hygiene led to the publication of severe strictures in the local press, and on some occasions to wide divergence of opinion among the Commissioners themselves, accompanied too frequently by somewhat acrimonious discussions. The measures of improvement which mainly occupied the attention of the Commissioners were numerous and important, and included the extension of the water-supply, both filtered and unfiltered, the completion of the sewerage system, the improvement of the privies of the Town and of the arrangements for the removal of night-soil, the reclamation of bustees, and the obliteration of foul and dangerous tanks. The arrangements for the extension of the supply of filtered water have, as already mentioned, been completed. The new engines and the main have been ordered from England, and it is hoped that the end of 1884 will see the works fairly on the road to completion. Meanwhile a virtual increase of the present supply has been made by the extended use of unfiltered water for a variety of less important purposes. The efforts of the Corporation to meet the growing requirements of the Town are illustrated by the following figures, which show the average daily supply of water in each year since 1879 :—

	Daily average of unfiltered water.	Daily average of filtered water.	Total.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1879	1,091,859	7,464,159	8,556,118
1880	1,165,776	7,407,256	8,573,032
1881	1,257,307	7,208,453	8,465,760
1882	1,838,725	7,824,576	9,663,301
1st quarter of 1883	2,594,276	8,049,707	10,643,983
2nd " "	2,992,494	8,279,167	11,271,661

According to the census returns, the population of Calcutta was actually less in 1881 than in 1876, and the supply available per head was therefore proportionately greater. The increase in the supply of unfiltered water was obtained by working the old engines to their fullest extent, as it was considered safe to do this in view of the early completion of the scheme for the extension of the unfiltered supply. It is hoped that this scheme will be in working order during the current cold season. The new engines are calculated to deliver 4 million gallons a day, working six hours, and it is estimated that over 2 million gallons of filtered water, now used for purposes for which unfiltered water would be suitable, will thus be set free. When the new scheme for increasing the supply of filtered water is completed, the present actual supply of filtered water will be about trebled. The execution of these two schemes cannot fail to have a salutary effect upon the health and general well-being of the Town.

Drainage.

A large amount of progress was made in 1882-83 in the extension of the drainage system. An expenditure of Rs 4,19,933 was incurred in laying down 20·67 miles of sewers of all classes and in constructing 3,596 new house connections. The agitation in the press during the cold weather of 1882-83, and the attacks which were made by a certain section of the community upon the whole system of under-ground drainage, as applied to Calcutta, have invested the subject with an unusual degree of interest, and have caused the existing arrangements to be investigated with a minuteness which, whatever may be the result,

cannot fail to throw much valuable light on this important subject. The total mileage of sewers actually laid down is—brick-sewers 36·77, and pipe-sewers 113·14, or 149·91 miles in all. Good progress was made during 1882-83, and it is now reported that only about 15 miles of pipe-sewers remain to be constructed. An important change was introduced during the year by the transfer of the night-soil establishment to the Health Officer. This reform is said to have infused a larger amount of energy into the department, and to have resulted in a material degree of improvement.

Reclamation of bustees.

During the past year the important work of reclaiming the bustees received more practical attention at the hands of the Commissioners than in previous years. The scheme for the reclamation of the large Soortee Bagan bustee of 64 bighas, which was drawn up and taken in hand in 1881, was carried almost to completion, and the projected works of improvement constructed at the expense of the Municipality. The Patwar Bagan bustee, measuring 29 bighas in extent, was also taken up; the owners were induced to undertake the works ordered by the Committee at their own cost, and these are now said to be rapidly progressing. Proceedings have also been taken with regard to the Hather Bagan, Jorapooker, and Gowalapara, Bamun Bagan, Colvin, Kola Bagan, and other bustees, and the schemes have all made more or less progress. The areas of the bustees so dealt with aggregate 293 bighas. In addition to these, the Jora Bagan bustee, which covers 28 bighas, was taken in hand under the new section 283A of the Municipal Act which confers extensive summary powers on the Commissioners for the reclamation of bustees whose owners prove contumacious. The original cost of the scheme for the reclamation of this bustee, as estimated, exceeded four lakhs of rupees, but the modifications subsequently made proved so acceptable to the people, that the owners of the bustee have in almost every instance consented to give up, free of cost, the land required for the municipal improvements, recouping themselves by the enhanced value of the remainder.

Thirty-three tanks were obliterated during the year at a net cost of only Rs. 1,768 to the Municipality, but very many old and objectionable ones still remain. Thirteen out of the 33 tanks were filled up by their owners.

MUNICIPALITIES IN THE INTERIOR OF BENGAL.

Inclusive of the Suburban Municipality, the number of municipalities in the interior of Bengal was as follows:—

	1881-82.	1882-83.
First-class municipalities	26	27
Second-class ditto	99	97
Unions	58	54
Stations	2	2
Total ...	185	180

Compared with the figures of 1881-82 there was a decrease of five in the total number of municipal institutions in the country. Taking each class separately, it will be seen that there was an increase of one in the number of municipalities of the first class, and a decrease of two in that of the second class. The number of institutions styled Unions fell from 58 to 54, but that of Stations remained the same as in the previous year. The town of Naraingunge, which was a second-class municipality, was raised to the status of a first-class municipality, with effect from the 1st January 1883.

The decrease of two in the number of second-class municipalities was owing to the abolition of the municipalities of Kalaroah and Kaligunge in the district of Khulna. The union of [illegible]marhi in the district of Mozufferpore was created a second-class municipality, with effect from the 1st October 1882. The decrease of four in the number of unions was due to the abolition of the unions of Jehanabad, Chand, and Chynpore in the district of Shahabad, and the cantonment union at Berhampore. A new union was created during the year at Khuruckpore Bazar in the district of Monghyr.

The conservancy provisions contained in Part VII of the Municipal Act, or portions of them, were extended during the year to the municipalities of—

Goverdanga,	Burisaul,
Moheshpore,	Chittagong,
Furreedpore,	Pooree, and

Cuttack.

Part IX of the Municipal Act, regarding the establishment and regulation of markets, was extended to the municipalities of Serampore, Kushtea, Comerkhally, and Hajeepore.

Bye-laws were framed by the Municipal Commissioners and confirmed by the Lieutenant-Governor for the following municipalities:—

(1) Rungpore,	(4) Noakholly,
(2) Bogra,	(5) Bhagulpore,
(3) Dacca,	(6) Pooree, and

(7) Cuttack.

Extension of Act VI (B.C.) of 1878.

During the year, Act VI (B.C.) of 1878, which provides for the cleansing of all private and public latrines within first-class municipalities, was extended to the municipalities of Chinsurah, Howrah, Jessore, Darjeeling, Comillah, and Bhagulpore.

Constitution and finance of municipalities.

The following statement shows the constitution and population of municipalities in the province, and their income and expenditure during the year:—

Name of Division.	Number of Commissioners.					Population within municipal limits.	Income.		Total.	Expenditure.	Incidence of taxation per head of population.	Incidence of income per head of population.
	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Officials.	Non-officials.		From taxation.	From miscellaneous sources.				
							Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Burdwan Division ...	114	335	449	146	303	490,086	4,63,463	75,754	5,39,217	5,33,500	0 15 3	1 1 7
2. Presidency " ...	111	439	550	120	430	732,348	7,09,604	1,30,812	8,40,416	7,71,727	0 12 8	1 2 6
3. Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division.	50	128	178	56	122	119,479	1,02,943	75,269	1,78,212	1,81,117	0 13 8	1 7 10
4. Dacca Division ...	40	203	243	62	181	251,360	1,83,449	32,350	2,15,799	2,02,378	0 11 8	0 13 8
5. Chittagong " ...	18	54	72	13	59	61,473	39,517	11,532	51,049	63,056	0 10 3	0 13 3
6. Patna " ...	72	386	458	91	367	916,998	3,43,232	1,19,045	4,62,277	4,17,493	0 5 11	0 8 0
7. Bhagulpore " ...	50	112	162	43	119	204,048	1,25,731	73,921	1,99,652	1,59,199	0 9 10	0 15 7
8. Orissa " ...	16	63	79	20	59	114,801	57,116	18,170	75,286	75,908	0 7 11	0 10 5
9. Chota Nagpore Division...	25	70	95	29	66	95,604	35,600	12,967	48,567	43,685	0 5 11	0 8 1
Total ...	496	1,790	2,286	580	1,706	2,986,197	20,60,655	5,58,820	26,19,475	24,48,153	0 11 0	0 14 0

Elective municipalities in the interior.

There was no change in the number of municipalities in which the elective system was in force. These were three in number, viz. Serampore, Burdwan, and Kishnaghur. In Serampore, the introduction of the property-test in the election of Commissioners has materially impaired the popularity of the system. The Chairman reported that the people took very little interest in the polling, and none of the rate-payers took the trouble to attend personally to record their votes.

In Burdwan, the town is divided into four wards for the purposes of election. During the past year there was a vacancy of one member each in three of them. Out of 5,149 persons entitled to vote, only 1,921 persons actually exercised the privilege. The highest number of votes secured by any one candidate was 414.

In Kishnaghur there were five elected Commissioners who retired from the Committee during the year, but the election of members in their places excited very little interest among the people. Only in one ward was there a contest among four candidates, but the highest number of votes obtained by the elected candidate was only 79. The Chairman of the municipality reports as follows:—"It is noteworthy, however, that very few respectable persons voted, the efforts of the partizans on either side being directed to gain the votes of poor rate-payers somehow or other dependent upon the candidates. Some of these did not know why they had come to vote, and had to be told that they were electing their Municipal Commissioners. The rules allow the poorest rate-payers to vote, and I doubt whether their votes are freely given." He suggests that a property-qualification for voters should be introduced.

Marine.

Strength of the Pilot Service.

THE total strength of the Pilot Service at the end of the year under review, inclusive of 27 leadsmen apprentices, four of whom arrived during the year, was 89. Two casualties occurred among the pilots during the year; but as three leadsmen apprentices passed the pilot's examination the number of qualified pilots was raised from 61 to 62. The system of obtaining the leadsmen apprentices from the training ships at home continues to work well; but the necessity for a very stringent medical examination of the candidates in England and for carefully testing their powers of vision is greatly felt.

Shipping.

The number of arrivals during the year was 1,151 vessels, with a gross tonnage of 1,982,187 tons, and of departures 1,141 vessels, with a gross tonnage of 1,979,107 tons, showing an increase of 160 vessels and of 379,205 tons, inwards and outwards, over the previous year. The year under review therefore showed the largest number of ships that has ever been recorded for any year, except 1877-78, when the Madras famine caused an unusual development of the export trade in grain. Of the number of arrivals and departures (2,292), 1,238 were steamers and 1,054 sailing ships, and of the latter 1,006, or 95·4, made use of tugs in proceeding up and down the river under pilotage charge. There was a further increase during the year in the number of vessels of heavy draught, which has risen so greatly in recent years, as shown by the following statement of vessels which drew 21 feet and upwards on their way up and down the river :—

	Above 21 to 22 feet.		22 to 23 feet.		23 to 24 feet.		24 to 25 feet.		25 to 26 feet.		26 to 27 feet.		Total 1882-83.		Total 1881-82.	
	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.
Steamers	32	84	34	105	14	89	5	42	1	3	...	2	86	325	63	306
Sailing vessels	64	134	29	60	4	19	1	...	...	...	...	...	98	213	89	184
Total ..	96	218	63	165	18	108	6	42	1	3	...	2	184	538	152	490

The increase not only in the number but also in the draught of vessels has obviously added to the difficulty of pilotage in the Hooghly, as well as increased the work of the Pilot Service; but the conduct of the Service generally continued very satisfactory during the year.

Pilotage.

The earnings of the pilots have grown with the increase in the shipping of the port. During the year the branch pilots piloted on an average 5·23 vessels a month, the masters 4, and the mates 3, these averages being such as to afford ample remuneration to each grade and to leave no room whatever for complaint. Forty-three vessels were also placed in charge of leadsmen apprentices, in the temporary absence of pilots in each case. While, however, the earnings of the Pilot Service have been larger, the mercantile community has also benefited considerably from the reduction of pilotage by 15 per cent. which was brought into force on the 1st August 1881. The amount thus remitted in the past year was Rs. 1,53,878.

Casualties.

The number of groundings during the year was 51 against 33, and of collisions 25 against 12 in the previous year. The groundings resulted, in one case, in the total loss of the vessel, and in another in considerable damage; but in most of the

The conservancy provisions contained in Part VII of the Municipal Act, or portions of them, were extended during the year to the municipalities of—

Goverdanga,	Burisaul,
Moheshpore,	Chittagong,
Furreedpore,	Pooree, and

Cuttack.

Part IX of the Municipal Act, regarding the establishment and regulation of markets, was extended to the municipalities of Serampore, Kushtea, Comerkhally, and Hajeepore.

Bye-laws were framed by the Municipal Commissioners and confirmed by the Lieutenant-Governor for the following municipalities:—

(1) Rungpore,	(4) Noakholly,
(2) Bogra,	(5) Bhagulpore,
(3) Dacca,	(6) Pooree, and

(7) Cuttack.

Extension of Act VI (B.C.) of 1878.

During the year, Act VI (B.C.) of 1878, which provides for the cleansing of all private and public latrines within first-class municipalities, was extended to the municipalities of Chinsurah, Howrah, Jessore, Darjeeling, Comillah, and Bhagulpore.

Constitution and finance of municipalities.

The following statement shows the constitution and population of municipalities in the province, and their income and expenditure during the year:—

Name of Division.	Number of Commissioners.					Population within municipal limits.	Income.		Total.	Expenditure.	Incidence of taxation per head of population.	Incidence of income per head of population.
	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Officials.	Non-officials.		From taxation.	From miscellaneous sources.				
							Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Burdwan Division ...	114	335	449	146	303	490,086	4,63,463	75,754	5,39,217	5,33,500	0 15 3	1 1 7
2. Presidency " ...	111	439	550	120	430	732,348	7,09,604	1,39,812	8,49,416	7,71,727	0 12 8	1 2 6
3. Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division.	50	128	178	56	122	119,479	1,02,948	75,269	1,78,212	1,81,117	0 13 8	1 7 10
4. Dacca Division ...	40	203	243	62	181	251,360	1,83,449	32,350	2,15,799	2,02,378	0 11 8	0 13 8
5. Chittagong " ...	18	54	72	13	59	61,473	39,517	11,532	51,049	63,056	0 10 3	0 13 3
6. Patna " ...	72	386	458	91	367	916,968	3,43,232	1,19,045	4,62,277	4,17,493	0 5 11	0 8 0
7. Bhagulpore " ...	50	112	162	43	119	204,048	1,25,731	73,921	1,99,652	1,59,199	0 9 10	0 15 7
8. Orissa " ...	16	63	79	20	59	114,801	57,116	18,170	75,286	75,998	0 7 11	0 10 5
9. Chota Nagpore Division...	25	70	95	29	66	95,604	35,600	12,967	48,567	43,685	0 5 11	0 8 1
Total ...	496	1,790	2,286	580	1,706	2,986,197	20,60,655	5,58,820	26,19,475	24,48,153	0 11 0	0 14 0

Elective municipalities in the interior.

There was no change in the number of municipalities in which the elective system was in force. These were three in number, viz. Serampore, Burdwan, and Kishnaghur. In Serampore, the introduction of the property-test in the election of Commissioners has materially impaired the popularity of the system. The Chairman reported that the people took very little interest in the polling, and none of the rate-payers took the trouble to attend personally to record their votes.

In Burdwan, the town is divided into four wards for the purposes of election. During the past year there was a vacancy of one member each in three of them. Out of 5,149 persons entitled to vote, only 1,921 persons actually exercised the privilege. The highest number of votes secured by any one candidate was 414.

In Kishnaghur there were five elected Commissioners who retired from the Committee during the year, but the election of members in their places excited very little interest among the people. Only in one ward was there a contest among four candidates, but the highest number of votes obtained by the elected candidate was only 79. The Chairman of the municipality reports as follows:—"It is noteworthy, however, that very few respectable persons voted, the efforts of the partizans on either side being directed to gain the votes of poor rate-payers somehow or other dependent upon the candidates. Some of these did not know why they had come to vote, and had to be told that they were electing their Municipal Commissioners. The rules allow the poorest rate-payers to vote, and I doubt whether their votes are freely given." He suggests that a property-qualification for voters should be introduced.

Marine.

Strength of the Pilot Service.

THE total strength of the Pilot Service at the end of the year under review, inclusive of 27 leadsmen apprentices, four of whom arrived during the year, was 89. Two casualties occurred among the pilots during the year; but as three leadsmen apprentices passed the pilot's examination the number of qualified pilots was raised from 61 to 62. The system of obtaining the leadsmen apprentices from the training ships at home continues to work well; but the necessity for a very stringent medical examination of the candidates in England and for carefully testing their powers of vision is greatly felt.

Shipping.

The number of arrivals during the year was 1,151 vessels, with a gross tonnage of 1,982,187 tons, and of departures 1,141 vessels, with a gross tonnage of 1,979,107 tons, showing an increase of 160 vessels and of 379,205 tons, inwards and outwards, over the previous year. The year under review therefore showed the largest number of ships that has ever been recorded for any year, except 1877-78, when the Madras famine caused an unusual development of the export trade in grain. Of the number of arrivals and departures (2,292), 1,238 were steamers and 1,054 sailing ships, and of the latter 1,006, or 95·4, made use of tugs in proceeding up and down the river under pilotage charge. There was a further increase during the year in the number of vessels of heavy draught, which has risen so greatly in recent years, as shown by the following statement of vessels which drew 21 feet and upwards on their way up and down the river :—

	Above 21 to 22 feet.		22 to 23 feet.		23 to 24 feet.		24 to 25 feet.		25 to 26 feet.		26 to 27 feet.		Total 1882-83.		Total 1881-82.	
	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.	In.	Out.
Steamers	32	84	34	105	14	89	5	42	1	3	...	2	86	325	63	306
Sailing vessels	64	134	29	60	4	19	1	...	...	...	...	...	98	213	89	184
Total ..	96	218	63	165	18	108	6	42	1	3	...	2	184	538	152	490

The increase not only in the number but also in the draught of vessels has obviously added to the difficulty of pilotage in the Hooghly, as well as increased the work of the Pilot Service; but the conduct of the Service generally continued very satisfactory during the year.

Pilotage.

The earnings of the pilots have grown with the increase in the shipping of the port. During the year the branch pilots piloted on an average 5·23 vessels a month, the masters 4, and the mates 3, these averages being such as to afford ample remuneration to each grade and to leave no room whatever for complaint. Forty-three vessels were also placed in charge of leadsmen apprentices, in the temporary absence of pilots in each case. While, however, the earnings of the Pilot Service have been larger, the mercantile community has also benefited considerably from the reduction of pilotage by 15 per cent. which was brought into force on the 1st August 1881. The amount thus remitted in the past year was Rs. 1,53,878.

Casualties.

The number of groundings during the year was 51 against 33, and of collisions 25 against 12 in the previous year. The groundings resulted, in one case, in the total loss of the vessel, and in another in considerable damage; but in most of the

remaining cases no damage was done. Of the collisions eighteen were either unimportant or accidental, and of the remaining seven cases one was due to the mismanagement of the pilot, three to country boats, and one to the unskilfulness of the steam-tug pilot. Seven were attended with no damage, thirteen with damage, and one with serious damage. In one case an inland steamer, in another a steam-tug, and in two cases boats, were sunk. The total casualties of the year gave a percentage of 3·31 on the number of ships, as compared with 2·106 in the previous year.

Two Marine Courts and seven departmental enquiries were held during the year. In one case the pilot was severely censured and reduced to half-earnings for three months for grounding his ship on the edge of the Gasper Sands, and in another a steam-tug pilot was suspended for 12 months for unskilfulness in causing a collision between the vessel in tow of his steamer and another vessel riding at anchor in Diamond Harbour. The other cases resulted in the acquittal of the pilots. Besides these enquiries into the conduct of pilots, five Special Courts were convened under Act IV of 1875 to enquire into casualties to ships, and two investigations were held to ascertain the cause of the loss of the inland steamers *Oude* and *Goalpara* in Garden Reach and the Sunderbuns respectively. The most important of the cases which came before the Special Courts were the wreck of the barque *Mohusser* on Saugor Sand on the 1st May 1882, with the loss of 36 lives, including 25 native passengers, and the stranding and abandonment of the barque *Aberdeenshire* on Subtermookee shoal, in the Sunderbuns, on the 6th October 1882. The Court, in the former case, blamed both the master and the pilot; but the latter, on being subsequently tried under Act XII of 1859, was acquitted. In the case of the *Aberdeenshire* the loss of the vessel was proved to have been caused by the unskilfulness of the commander, but the Court omitted to place him on his trial. The inland steamer *Oude* was sunk in consequence of collisions with two vessels in Garden Reach, and the inland steamer *Goalpara* by grounding on a mud lump at the junction of two rivers in the Sunderbuns. In both cases the masters were exonerated from blame.

Government vessels.

The S. S. *Undaunted*, besides making the usual trips to the pilot and light-vessels at the Sandheads and visiting the Mutlah and the Orissa ports, was used during the year to tow a hulk laden with mooring tackle and an anchor boat to Chittagong, and to lay a whistling buoy on the South Patch Shoal lying beyond that port. One of the pilot brigs having been condemned, only two were available for service at the Sandheads during the year. A new brig has arrived from home since the close of the year.

Certificates of survey and competency.

Ninety-one candidates appeared for examination for colonial and local certificates of competency of the various grades, of whom 65 passed. The colonial certificates granted comprised 6 master's, 11 first mate's, 2 second mate's, 2 first class engineer's, and 6 second class engineer's; and the local certificates included, 1 master's, 1 first mate's, 4 second mate's, 2 first class engineer's, 4 second class engineer's, and 23 engine-driver's, besides 1 first class engineer's, and 2 second class engineer's, for inland service. There were seven candidates for certificates as commanders of inland vessels, of whom six were successful. Five vessels were registered under the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854, and the registry of 16 was cancelled. One vessel only was registered under the Indian Act X of 1841. A and B certificates, under the Native Passengers' Act VIII of 1876, were issued by the Port Officer during the year, while the surveys were carried out by the Port Commissioners' Engineer-Surveyor. This arrangement appears open to improvement, and the question of placing the granting of the certificates as well as the surveys in the hands of the Port Commissioners is under consideration.

Health of the port.

The number of both in-coming and out-going vessels medically inspected by the Health Officer was 1,367, against 1,112 in the previous year. The average number of European seamen in the port was 1,792, against 1,350 in the previous year. The number admitted into hospital was not excessive in comparison with the total number of the crews in the port, but the mortality exceeded the rate in the previous two years, owing to the greater prevalence of cholera and bowel

complaints. The principal diseases from which the seamen suffered, and the mortality from each in the past four years, are shown in the following statement:—

Diseases.	1882.		1881.		1880.		1879.		1878.	
	Admitted.	Died.	Admitted.	Died.	Admitted.	Died.	Admitted.	Died.	Admitted.	Died.
Cholera	64	41	51	33	23	14	42	25	45	29
Diarrhœa	143	2	116	3	109	.....	149	3	222	.....
Dysentery	146	8	107	4	130	1	132	5	176	8
Fever, enteric	8	6	7	4	1	1	4	2	7	3
" malarious	251	5	180	4	197	1	705	2	1,117	3
" simple	186	.....	197	.....	204	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scurvy	28	.....	20	1	18	.....	13	1	12	.....
Small-pox	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	1	15	1	1	.....
Sunstroke	5	3	0	.....	29	1	3	2	42	10
Other diseases	1,426	29	1,112	16	1,289	30	1,063	20	1,670	27
Total ...	2,257	94	1,790	65	2,005	49	2,126	61	3,292	80

The average daily population of the port during this period having been 1,000 for 1879, 1,400 for 1880, 1,350 for 1881, and 1,792 for 1882, the death-rate per thousand was 61 in 1879, 35 in 1880, 48 in 1881, and 51·8 in the year under review.

The death-rate was higher than usual, being enhanced by large mortality from cholera, which accounted for 41 out of 94 deaths. The increase in cholera cases last year is in the main attributable to an increase of the disease in the town; but it is to be feared that in many instances the attacks were brought on by the recklessness of the men themselves. In eighteen cases it was ascertained that the disease was preceded by drunkenness and exposure to rain and cold. As was the case last year, the mortality from cholera in the port was heaviest when the disease was most rife in the town. Bowel complaints and fever were also more fatal than in the previous year. The mortality from typhoid fever amounted to 3·3 per thousand. The comparatively large number of cases of this disease, which is said to be very rare amongst the resident population of Calcutta, appears to be mainly due to the gross disregard of their own health shown by seamen in frequenting unhealthy localities and consuming the unwholesome drinks offered for sale in the native bazars. Efforts have been, and are still, made to keep seamen away from the native bazars, and much good has thus been done by the persons who have interested themselves in this philanthropic work. An increase is again observed in cases of scurvy, and a similar increase has been noticed in England. The matter has attracted the attention of the Board of Trade, and it may be hoped that instructions will soon be issued for such a change in the diet of sailors at sea as to greatly reduce the risk of this disease. Five deaths from sun-stroke occurred during the year, but there is no reason to believe that any of them were due to neglect of proper precautions by the masters of vessels. With a view to check the unnecessary exposure of seamen to the heavy dews and fogs on the river, the Port Commissioners have recently resolved to issue a notice to the masters of all vessels visiting the port to inform them of the advantage which their crews will receive from awnings on deck. In other respects the year was normal, and the port was quite free from small-pox during the whole period under review.

The total mortality afloat and in hospital among the native population of the port, numbered at 25,630 in the last census, gives a rate of 7·2 per thousand, as compared with 5·5 in the previous year. With the exception, however, of cholera, to which the higher mortality was due, the past year was not an unhealthy one for this class of the floating population. There were no deaths from typhoid fever or small-pox amongst them, and it is worthy of note that while they, who drank the foul water of the Hooghly, had a death-rate of 4·4 per thousand from cholera, the mortality from that disease among the residents of the town, who drink the filtered water supplied by the municipality, was 5·2 per thousand.

Quarantine measures.

As mentioned in the last year's Report, steps were taken shortly before the end of the year to supply the Egyptian and Turkish Governments with the fullest information regarding the sanitary condition of the Indian ports, in the hope that a knowledge of the

facts would induce those Governments to remove the restrictions formerly imposed by them upon traffic. This hope was realised, and in April last quarantine in Egypt was removed, and has not been since reimposed. Weekly death returns of the port are now sent regularly to Egypt and Turkey; and as the mortality from cholera, though somewhat heavier than in previous years, has not led to the reimposition of quarantine, it may be hoped that a change is taking place in the policy of both Governments in this respect. In July, in consequence of representations from the Turkish Sanitary Board, and with a view to keep communication with Egypt unimpeded, the Government of India consented to impose quarantine on ships from Batavia and Sumatra, where cholera was said to be rife. Two ships only arrived from Batavia, so that the amount of inconvenience caused was slight.

Pilgrim ships.

The number of pilgrims remained small, and one ship only returned with Bengali-Mussalmans from Jeddah. Small-pox broke out on board during the voyage, but the medical officer attached to the vessel rendered the necessary assistance.

Lascar crews.

The health of Indian sailors at sea was good, the reported mortality amounting to only 21 out of 4,853 lascars known to be afloat, or about 4·3 per mille. Complaints of illtreatment were made by lascars in nine cases. Scurvy was found present in two ships carrying native crews. The total number of cases, however, was only three.

Water-supply.

There were no complaints during the year regarding the quality of the filtered water supplied to the European shipping by the municipality. The tanks in the water-boats having now been fitted with proper covers, the water should always reach the ships in the same condition as it is received from the hydrants.

Calcutta Shipping Office.

The financial results of the working of the Calcutta Shipping Office during the past year were satisfactory, the receipts having amounted to Rs. 27,004, the disbursements to Rs. 21,141, and the profits to Rs. 5,863. Compared with the preceding year, the receipts showed an excess of 6 per cent., attributable to the larger number of seamen with whom the Office had to deal. The shipping and discharging fees were, as usual, the largest items of income, and their amount was doubtless enhanced by the plan of inviting seamen who were free to take engagements from other ports to Calcutta, and by the relaxation for some months of the rule which requires European seamen in all cases of discharge by mutual consent to deposit a portion of their wages as a provision against their falling into distress. The expenditure also exhibited an increase, but this is explained by the fact that exceptional charges were incurred for furniture, for the pay of a European constable, and for a large supply of forms, which will in a great measure meet the wants of the current year.

Trust Funds.

The transactions of the year in funds held in trust for British and native seamen are shown in the following statement:—

	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Rs.	Rs.
Balance	6,677	7,119
Receipts	60,574	77,382
Total ...	67,251	84,501
Repaid and lapsed to Government ...	60,132	77,277
Balance ...	7,119	7,224

Notwithstanding a large increase in receipts during the year, the balance in the hands of the Shipping Master at its close was but a few rupees larger than that at the end of the previous year. The balances on account of the deposit money of both British and native seamen, however, were large, and the measures devised for the purpose of securing to their heirs the estates left by deceased native seamen do not seem to have produced any result. Instead of a reduction, there has been a steady increase during the past three years in the balance of these estates remaining undisposed of at the end of each year;

and so long as full particulars are not recorded of the homes and relations of seamen, there can be very little prospect of success.

Numbers shipped and discharged.

The number of seamen of all nationalities shipped and discharged during the last two years was—

	1881-82.	1882-83.	Increase.
Shipped	15,868	16,225	357
Discharged	14,678	15,039	361

There was an increase in the number of British seamen, both shipped and discharged (attended by a decrease in the number of native seamen), this result being attributable to the suspension for a time of the rule requiring the deposit of security by British seamen on discharge by mutual consent.

Desertions.

Desertions were far more numerous than in the previous year, owing, it is stated, to the dearth of seamen and the efforts made by boarding-house keepers and runners to tempt men away from their ships. There were 247 cases, against 191 in 1881-82. This offence would be greatly checked if the men, and especially those by whom they are instigated, were sometimes prosecuted after the vessels have left the port; but neither the masters nor the agents of vessels have hitherto been willing to take any steps towards such prosecutions, although it has been pointed out that under the provisions of section 327 of the Code of Criminal Procedure the evidence of the leading witnesses might be placed on record before their departure from Calcutta, and be made available on the subsequent arrest of the offenders. The police have, however, recently undertaken the prosecution of some boarding-house keepers for abetting the desertion of seamen, and these proceedings should be productive of some good.

Seamen's remittances.

Gratifying proof of increasing thrift among British seamen is afforded by a marked advance in the amount of their remittances home by money-orders. During the year no less than Rs. 42,256, equivalent to £3,565, inclusive of commission, were so remitted, against Rs. 21,779, or £1,837, in 1881-82.

Miscellaneous.

Various important matters affecting the interests of seamen came under consideration during the year. The passing of Act V of 1883, which comes into force on the 1st January 1884, has disposed of several questions which had been under discussion for a considerable period. The appointment of Port Health Officers has been legalised, and they have been vested with the requisite powers for the inspection of provisions and water carried for the use of seamen, for the medical examination of seamen and apprentices, and for requiring the production of log-books and other papers for the purpose of enquiring into the medical condition of vessels. For the better protection of lascars who may be liable to discharge in foreign ports, the Act has provided for the insertion of a stipulation in their agreements that fit employment shall be found for them on board some other ship bound to the port at which they were shipped, or another port in British India, or that they shall be granted a return passage to British India.

Financial condition of the Port Trust.

The Port Trust commenced the year with a total debt of Rs. 79,27,830, consisting of Rs. 51,62,830 due to Government on account of the consolidated repayable debt, of Rs. 17,65,000, which represents the non-payable book-debt, and of Rs. 10,00,000, the debenture loan raised in 1881. During the year the consolidated debt was reduced by the fixed annual payment on account of sinking fund, but another loan of 20 lakhs was contracted for new works, of which Rs. 12,25,000 were actually received by the Commissioners before the 31st March, and the total debt on that date stood thus:—

	Rs.
Consolidated repayable debt due to Government ...	50,67,967
Port book-debt not repayable	17,65,000
Debenture loan of 1881	10,00,000
Due on debenture loan of 1883	12,25,000
Total ...	90,57,967

The assets of the Trust, on the other hand, exclusive of the value of the foreshore and Strand Bank lands, which the Commissioners received free of cost from the Government in 1870, amounted on the same date to Rs. 1,47,28,018. This sum represented the value, according to capital expended, of the Jetties, Wharves, Tramway, Moorings, Ships, Boats and other property belonging to the Trust, and the investments of the Jetty Reserve, the Jetty Insurance, the Port Reserve, the Depreciation and the Debenture Loan Sinking Funds. The addition made to the value of all the Trust property during the year amounted to Rs. 12,94,412.

The total receipts on capital account, inclusive of a balance of Rs. 6,53,199 from the previous year, were Rs. 39,25,042, and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 29,09,862, leaving a balance of Rs. 10,15,180. The revenue accounts showed a total income of Rs. 31,82,162, inclusive of a balance of Rs. 6,71,018 at the commencement of the year, against a total expenditure of Rs. 27,45,523, a sum of Rs. 4,36,639 being thus left in hand at the end of the year.

Improvements.

The expenditure on new works during the year amounted to Rs. 13,29,626, of which the Jetties absorbed Rs. 5,31,914, the Inland Vessels' Wharves Rs. 43,135, the Tramway Rs. 1,95,942, the Howrah foreshore road Rs. 96,374, the reconstruction of the riverside Press-house, burnt down in February 1882, Rs. 1,41,899, new vessels for the Port approaches Rs. 2,46,292, and miscellaneous works Rs. 74,070.

Jetties.

The total Jetty receipts during the year were higher than those of any previous year except 1877-78, when unusual activity prevailed in the grain traffic on account of the Madras famine. The increase has taken place entirely on account of the larger quantity of goods shipped and landed, and in spite of the reduction of the landing charges on piece-goods and twist to 4 annas per bale as compared with $4\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 annas charged before the 1st April 1882. The total income for the year amounted to Rs. 7,74,230 against Rs. 7,68,047 in 1881-82, and the expenditure to Rs. 6,44,032 against Rs. 5,47,861, leaving a net income of Rs. 1,30,198 as compared with Rs. 2,20,186 in the previous year. The increase of expenditure was mainly due to the payment of a far larger contribution than in the previous year from this head of revenue to the Port Approaches, the contribution being needed to make up for the reduction of port dues from three annas to one anna per ton, which came into operation from the commencement of the year. The extent to which the Jetties have been used in the past three years is shown in the following statement:—

Period.	Number of jetties.	Number of vessels accommodated.	Registered net tonnage.	Total number of days occupied at all jetties.	Total amount contributed by vessels for use of jetties.	Average length of stay at jetties.	Average number of days each jetty was at work throughout the year.	Average amount paid by each vessel for use of jetties.	Total jetty receipts from imports and exports.	Average per vessel.	Average tonnage of vessels.
					Rs.	Days.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1880-81	8	193	324,187	1,982	73,762	10·2	248	382	7,14,189	3,700	1,680
1881-82	8	212	361,636	2,013	78,865	9·9	263	372	7,53,074	3,552	1,706
1882-83	8	199	375,907	2,161	77,672	10·8	270	390	7,58,283	3,810	1,889

Of the total income of the past year Rs. 6,63,162 were contributed by imports and only Rs. 95,121 by exports. The balance consisted of miscellaneous receipts. Notwithstanding the increase in the quantity of goods shipped and landed, the removal and warehousing charges fell off by nearly Rs. 20,000, the loss being attributable to the greater promptitude with which goods can now be removed owing to the abolition of the customs duties. This is a clear gain to the mercantile community.

30-ton crane.

The floating 30-ton crane was under steam for 155 days of the year and earned Rs. 24,256, or about Rs. 4,000 more than in the previous year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,661, and a net surplus of Rs. 11,595 was obtained.

Inland wharves.

The receipts at the Inland Vessels' Wharves, exclusive of the income from the Tramway, were the largest realised in any year except 1877-78, amounting to Rs. 4,07,133 against Rs. 3,81,937 in the previous year. The closing of the Chitpore Lock

of the Circular Canals throughout the year, which caused a larger number of boats to resort to the wharves, doubtless contributed a good deal to this result. The expenditure was, however, largely increased, chiefly in consequence of a contribution of Rs. 90,000 to the Port Approaches, as compared with only Rs. 38,507 in the previous year, and the net revenue accordingly amounted to only Rs. 1,11,383, against Rs. 1,58,007.

Strand Bank lands.

A decline of over Rs. 10,000 in the receipts from the Strand Bank lands is accounted for by the destruction by fire of the Commissioners' riverside press in February 1882, which necessitated the grant of considerable remissions of rent to the tenants while the press was under reconstruction. The total income amounted to Rs. 1,47,089, against Rs. 1,57,472 in the previous year, and the net revenue, after payment of all charges, was Rs. 25,192, against Rs. 45,913.

Harbour Masters' Department.

An increase in the number of vessels visiting the port during the year caused a considerable addition to the income of the Harbour Masters' Department, which was further swelled by unusually high receipts under the head of "Wreck and Anchor," and by the realisation, for the first time, of fees for the services of the Engineer-Surveyor, who arrived from England in June 1882 and is now attached to the staff of the Port Commissioners. The Wreck and Anchor receipts included payments on account of the wreck *Ellen Stuart* and of the American ship *Valiant*, which caught fire and was stranded, but was subsequently floated and discharged by the assistance of the Harbour Master's Department. The total income from all sources was Rs. 5,97,873, against Rs. 4,81,872 in 1881-82; but the expenditure also increased from Rs. 4,61,468 to Rs. 5,87,812, and the net revenue thus amounted to only Rs. 10,061, against Rs. 20,404 in the previous year. Larger payments on account of fees earned by the Harbour Masters, a charge of Rs. 12,484 for the salary and passage money for the Engineer-Surveyor, and a contribution of Rs. 98,000 to the Port Approaches, account for the excess in the expenditure of the year.

Accidents within the port.

Ten casualties occurred to ships while in charge of Harbour Masters during the year. In three cases only they were to blame, but in no instance was the damage done of a very serious nature. The percentage of accidents was, however, somewhat higher than in the preceding year, being ·86 against ·65.

The fire-engine *Hooghly* was less frequently required than in the previous year, when several large and destructive fires occurred in the port and along the banks of the river. It was called out ten times, but was actually used in only six cases, in five of which it was able to render useful service. The most serious of the fires broke out at the Camperdown Jute Press and the Chitpore Hydraulic Press, causing much loss at both places.

Dredging.

The dredger was employed on 181 days of the year at a net expenditure of Rs. 23,035, the average cost of every 1,000 cubic feet dredged being Rs. 18·33.

Registration and survey of cargo and passenger boats.

The number of cargo and passenger boats surveyed, registered, and licensed, and of manjees licensed, was as follows :—

				1882-83.	1881-82.
Cargo boats	...	...	...	5,942	5,643
Passenger "	...	...	...	2,148	2,145
Manjees licensed	...	...	...	9,431	8,527

A reduction of one-fourth of the rates of fees charged to these boats was sanctioned during the year, and has since taken effect.

Survey and measurement of vessels.

The number of vessels of all kinds surveyed during the year by the Commissioners' Surveyor was 131, the total number of visits paid to them was 398, and the fees realised were Rs. 3,970. In addition to this work he measured 11 vessels for tonnage, surveyed and passed the condensers of 16 emigrant ships, surveyed and measured for certificates 48 native passenger steamers, and held miscellaneous surveys on 16 vessels.

Tramway.

The receipts from the Commissioners' tramway amounted to Rs. 1,60,549, against Rs. 1,35,812 in 1881-82, and the expenditure to Rs. 1,16,091, against Rs. 97,672, and the net revenue thus rose from Rs. 38,140 to Rs. 44,458. The quantity of goods received and despatched through to the Eastern Bengal Railway reached 209,430 tons, and 15,201 wagons were also loaded and despatched on local traffic. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 188,030 tons and 11,448 wagons.

Port Approaches and the River Survey, Lighting and Buoy Departments.

The income and expenditure on account of the Port Approaches, inclusive of the River Survey, Buoying, and Lighting establishments, were as follows:—

Income.	Rs.	*Expenditure.*	Rs.
Receipts from port dues ...	98,817	Salaries	1,86,939
Contribution from Port Trust revenue.	3,07,500	Working expenses ...	1,38,335
		Repairs	99,102
Other receipts	17,252	Other charges	11,993
Total ...	4,23,569	Total ...	4,36,369

The only direct income available to meet the expenditure for the Port Approaches is derived from the port dues, and these, owing to the reduction of the rate from three annas to one anna, now yield less than a lakh of rupees per annum, while the expenditure approaches 4½ lakhs. The balance has accordingly to be supplied by contributions from the receipts of the Port proper.

The usual surveys of the river channels were carried out during the year, and a revenue survey party was also employed on the bank for the purpose of connecting the permanent marks of the river survey with the great trigonometrical stations and filling in the shore detail between Calcutta and Saugor. Some important changes were noticed in two or three of the channels leading to the port, but no obstruction was apparently caused to navigation. The depth of water over the James and Mary bar is reported to have been unusually low in February and March last, owing to very weak freshets. All the moorings in the port have been seen to by the Deputy Conservator and Harbour Master, and the Port Approaches have been made the subject of careful examination by Lieutenant Petley, by whom a great deal of good work has been turned out in the charts and tracings published and issued to Port Officers and Pilots.

The light-houses at Saugor, Cowcolly, and False Point appear to have been efficiently maintained during the year, and the six light-vessels were all brought up to town and repaired. An extensive encroachment of the Middleton Spit in the Saugor Roads rendered the placing of a light-ship on the spot advisable, and this was promptly done by the Commissioners. Special distinguishing marks for the day have also been introduced for the different light-vessels, and machinery has been ordered from home for the purpose of giving to each of the three outer lights a distinctive feature, which would render its immediate identification possible at night.

Refuge-houses.

The refuge-houses on the sea face of the Sunderbuns, the duty of maintaining which has been accepted by the Commissioners, were visited three times in the course of the year. On each occasion it was found that the provisions and clothing supplied for the needs of shipwrecked seamen had been systematically stolen, and the trap-doors even had been taken off or destroyed. The more frequent inspection of the places of refuge, which the two new steamers to be imported from England will facilitate, may tend to the better security of the goods, and possibly to the detection of the offenders.

Warehouses.

The opposition with which the Commissioners' proposal to construct additional warehouses within the Jetty enclosure was received by the Calcutta Municipality, the British Indian Association, and other public and private bodies, was noticed in the

last year's Report. The warehouses were eventually sanctioned by the Government, and are now in course of construction. It is expected that one will be shortly finished, and the other before the close of the current year.

Objection was similarly taken to the erection of a tea warehouse by the Commissioners, but the project being one of great benefit to the tea trade generally, a short Act was introduced in the last session of the Bengal Council to enable the Commissioners to undertake the work, and the measure has since received the assent of the Government of India. The project will now be undertaken.

Miscellaneous.

A joint Committee of the Port Commissioners with three members of the Chamber has lately reported on the measures practicable for extending the accommodation of the port to meet the great increase in its shipping and trade. The Calcutta Docking Company's premises, situated immediately to the north of the Hooghly Bridge, were purchased by the Commissioners during the year. The possession of a dock for the exclusive use of the Commissioners' vessels and boats had become an urgent necessity, especially since the transfer to the Commissioners' charge of the Port Approaches, with the light-ships and the vessels of the River Survey.

Chittagong Port.

There was again a large increase in the trade of the port, and, clearly, all that is now required to confirm the position of Chittagong as the main outlet for the produce of Eastern Bengal is the opening of the projected railway to Chandpore in Tipperah, with subsequent extension to Assam. The advance in trade during the past year was due to larger exports of jute to the United Kingdom and Spain, the number of vessels which cleared with this produce having been more than double that in the previous year, and the receipt of a considerable amount of treasure from Mauritius and other places for the purchase of grain for export.

The number and tonnage of vessels visiting the port during the last two years are shown in the following statement:—

Particulars.	1881-82.		1882-83.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
European vessels trading with Europe	25	29,625	39	43,789	14	14,1[illegible]	.....	.....
Do. foreign trade	37	19,578	34	18,554	.....	.....	3	1,024
Do. coasting trade ...	16	8,212	15	8,411	.....	199	1	.....
Chittagong vessels ...	39	7,976	31	6,103	.....	.....	8	1,873
Other native vessels ...	52	6,287	58	5,779	6	.....	.....	508
Naraingunge inland trade ...	448	47,466	762	73,803	314	26,337	.....	.....
Mail steamers	104	53,821	103	55,858	.....	2,037	1	.....
Trading steamers	50	27,291	20	19,464	.....	.....	30	.....
Ballam boats	2,023	29,280	2,205	30,460	182	1,180	.....	7,827
Total ...	2,794	229,536	3,267	262,221	516	43,917	43	11,232

It will be observed that the number of vessels trading with Europe increased in the past year from 25 to 39. Of these, 7 imported salt from England and 32 cleared with jute, 29 going to Dundee, 2 to London, and 1 to New York. The shipments to the last two places were the first ever made, and they give promise of the opening up of a new trade in jute with those ports. The falling off in the number of European vessels in the foreign trade is attributed to a temporary cessation of trade with Ceylon and the diversion of some Chittagong vessels to the carriage of jute from Naraingunge to Chittagong. This trade, being on the whole safer and more profitable than commerce with more distant ports, has also caused a reduction in the number of vessels of this class engaged in the foreign and coasting trade. The large advance of 314 in the number of vessels on the Naraingunge inland trade is obviously accounted for by the expansion of the jute trade.

The total quantity of grain exported to both home and foreign ports in the past year was 81,315 tons, valued at Rs. 32,69,339, as compared with 82,478 tons, valued at Rs. 33,22,535, in the previous year. The exports to

foreign ports declined from 43,374 to 39,138 tons, owing to an entire stoppage of demand for the time from Ceylon and a less active trade with Mauritius, where low prices prevailed, while those to home ports increased from 39,104 to 42,177 tons, favourable prices on the Malabar Coast having attracted larger shipments to the ports in that part of India. The jute exports during the past year amounted in value to Rs. 73,23,050, against Rs. 44,86,319 in 1881-82. The staple imports of Chittagong are salt and mineral oil. The existence of large stocks remaining from the previous year caused a decrease in the importation of salt in the past year, but there was an increase in the quantity of mineral oil introduced. The consumption of this oil by all classes of the people is growing rapidly, and it is also much used in the port for breaming and oiling ships' timbers.

The receipts of the Port Fund amounted to Rs. 73,339, against Rs 60,827 in 1881-82, the increase being thus Rs. 12,512. The expenditure was Rs. 39,216, against Rs. 41,952 in 1881-82; and the net financial result of the administration in the past year was thus a surplus income of Rs. 34,123 (to which an addition has still to be made on account of interest on the Government securities belonging to the Port Fund), as compared with a surplus of Rs. 18,875 in the preceding year. The port still requires considerable and expensive improvements to meet the growth of the trade and shipping, and these are being gradually undertaken. In addition to the fixed moorings supplied in 1881, ten sets of swinging moorings were laid down in the past year, and mooring accommodation is now available for 13 vessels, besides the regular mail steamers. Application has since been received for a further supply of buoys for smaller vessels.

The buoys in the river were overhauled, scraped, and painted during the year, and a new whistling buoy was laid on the South Patch Shoal, which is one of the chief dangers to navigation in the neighbourhood of Chittagong. The particulars received of the state of the river from the port down to the outer bar show that there has been on the whole no deterioration in the stream. The most important changes took place in the outer bar, and there an obstruction was formed in mid-channel, which it was hoped would be washed away by the freshets during the past rainy season. The river was thoroughly surveyed during the year by officers of the Indian Marine Survey, and a complete chart was prepared on a six-inch scale.

The number of casualties to the shipping during the year was nine, against eleven in the previous year, and serious damage was suffered in only two cases. The year was unfortunately marked by two wrecks on the coast near the port, in one of which an English ship (the *Macbeth*) was lost. The conduct of the pilot service appears to have been generally good. The want of a tug is much felt in the port, but although the Government offered in the past year to grant aid towards the maintenance of one, no firm or individual was willing to accept the offer on the basis of service throughout the year, which is essential to the port

Orissa ports.

The shipping trade and income of the Orissa ports during the past three years are shown in the following statement:—

Port.	Year.	Entered.		Cleared.		Value of import.	Value of export.	Customs dues.	Port dues.
		Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.				
						Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
False Point	1880-81 ...	131	156,475	129	156,248	15,57,282	15,57,752	54,322	9,540
	1881-82 ...	135	165,875	136	165,957	8,47,160	10,93,894	.....	10,904
	1882-83 ...	156	171,030	153	168,619	1,73,961	29,70,497	.....	12,053
Pooree	1880-81 ...	43	38,834	41	38,487	68,664	1,31,600	5,271	1,354
	1881-82 ...	21	25,440	23	25,787	3,797	80,607	.....	545
	1882-83 ...	35	39,669	35	39,669	23,164	3,41,345	.....	567
Balasore	1880-81 ...	287	52,049	391	55,903	41,60,524	47,33,206	36,213	2,732
	1881-82 ...	520	77,594	509	74,538	51,48,069	47,68,283	.....	3,600
	1882-83 ...	372	77,024	403	77,551	52,09,098	43,02,909	.....	2,988

There was a decline in the shipping of the ports during the year as compared with that of the previous year, the number of vessels that entered and cleared being 1,154, against 1,344 in 1881-82. The falling off was entirely in Balasore. and is reported to have been due to the decrease in the number of

coasting sailing vessels that visited the port during the year. Notwithstanding, however, the decrease in the number of vessels, the total tonnage increased by 39,271 tons, and the total value of imports and exports from Rs. 1,28,41,810 in 1881-82 to Rs. 1,32,00,974.

The exportation of rice increased considerably, the quantity despatched to foreign and home ports being 1,681,760 cwt., valued at Rs. 37,71,385, against 962,978 cwt., valued at Rs. 22,50,615, in 1881-82. In imports there was an increase of twist and metals.

The importation of piece-goods declined in Pooree, while in Balasore there was a rise in quantity, though not in value. The increase in cotton twist indicates a growing market in the province, and will continue with the increased prosperity of the people. The increase in metals was due to the requirements of the Balasore coast canals.

False Point.

The increase in the arrivals and departures of vessels visiting this port during the year was due to increased exportation of rice to the home as well as foreign ports The quantity exported was 661,700 cwt., and the estimated value Rs. 18,29,666, against 340,900 cwt. and the estimated value Rs. 10,38,588 in the previous year. With the exception of metals, which showed an increase, there was a heavy decline in the imports, owing to the diversion of the trade to Chandbally, this port being preferred by merchants and traders as offering greater security in landing goods.

Pooree.

There was an increase of 14 vessels in the arrivals and 12 in the departures as compared with the preceding year. This was also due to an improvement in the exportation of rice during the last quarter of the year. The quantity exported rose from 38,794 cwt. in 1881-82 to 133,100 cwt. during the period under review, and was greater than that of any other year except 1876-77, when the Madras famine caused an unprecedented demand. This sudden increase was due to the good harvests of the last two years, which left an abundant stock available for export; but the main stimulus to the trade was given by the appearance of two new exporters who exported largely to Madras. There was a marked increase in the importation of treasure, gunny-bags, and provisions as compared with the preceding year, and this was due in a large measure to the improvement in the rice trade.

Balasore.

The falling off in the shipping of the port was due to a decrease in the number of coasting sailing vessels owing to decreased importation of coal for the Coast Canal works during the year. The quantity of rice exported amounted to 886,960 cwt., against 583,284 cwt. in the previous year. The imports of piece-goods and metals slightly increased, while that of spices declined. There was a considerable improvement in the importation of cotton twist, which rose from 333,140lb in 1881-82 to 3,452,950lb during the period under review. The passenger traffic amounted to 69,379 arrivals and 57,186 departures, against 61,381 arrivals and 63,426 departures in the previous year.

The Dhamra, Byturni, and Barabalang rivers were surveyed by the Bengal Marine Survey during the year. A light, visible at a distance of four miles, is now exhibited on the flagstaff at Chundipore, and a proposal to erect a light-house on Shortt's Island is under consideration.

Financial position of the ports.

The income and expenditure of the ports for the last two years are shown below:—

	Receipts.		Charges.	
	1881-82.	1882-83.	1881-82.	1828-83.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
False Point and Pooree ...	19,442	13,276	23,553	9,917
Balasore and Dhamra ...	12,611	10,669	14,137	15,162

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Meteorology.

Historical summary.

THE usual account of the year's work is on this occasion prefaced by a brief account of the previous history of the department; and a short description is also furnished of a scheme which has lately been introduced for extending the usefulness of the department.

Up to the year 1865 the only regular observatory in Bengal was that attached to the Surveyor-General's Office in Calcutta, at which observations had been recorded every hour since 1853. An attempt was made in 1847 to obtain statistics of temperature and rainfall at all sudder stations, and returns were furnished for several years, but they were found to contain such grave discrepancies as to be useless for all practical purposes. The destruction of life and property caused by the great Calcutta cyclone of the 5th October 1864 brought prominently to notice the necessity of bestowing greater attention on the study of the meteorology of the country; and in April 1865 a Committee was appointed to establish a system of telegraphic reports, such as would serve to apprise the shipping of Calcutta of the approach of cyclonic disturbances.

The Committee accordingly established six observing stations,* and started the publication of daily weather reports of the observations telegraphed from those stations, together with the observations taken at Calcutta, and others received from the Madras Observatory and a private observer in Ceylon.

* *Viz.*, Saugor Island.
Cuttack.
Chittagong.
Akyab.
Dacca.
Darjeeling.

The preliminary arrangements of the system inaugurated by the Committee having been completed, the further control of the work was entrusted to a special officer, who was appointed in April 1867 Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal. The system subsequently continued to expand, additional stations were established, and further steps were taken for securing an efficient system of storm-signals and warnings for the town and shipping of Calcutta.

In 1871, in order to familiarise the local officers with the use of statistics and with the observation of facts which every district officer ought carefully to watch in a country where such a surprise as the famine of 1866 was possible, the Government prescribed the punctual submission of a weekly return of the state of the weather and prospects of the crops. The variations of rainfall and weather and other statistics relating to the agriculture of the province were regularly published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and it was due to these returns that the want of rain in 1873 attracted timely notice, and that early measures were taken to meet the famine which followed it in 1874.

The work of the Meteorological Department received a further expansion in 1880 by the introduction, under the authority of the Government of India, of a scheme of marine meteorology. In furtherance of the work connected with this branch of the department, data regarding the weather on Indian seas are now collected through the medium of Hooghly pilots, and, where available, the logs of vessels coming into the port of Calcutta. An attempt to collect such data through masters of vessels was made in 1868, but the attempt did not succeed, and it was finally given up in 1875. The present system, however, gives promise of better results, as many of the returns

received from the captains of in-coming vessels are found to contain meteorological data of great value.

Changes for extending meteorological observations lately introduced.

The Department, notwithstanding the above measure, nevertheless still remained in some respects defective for the purposes of the administration, and a scheme was accordingly lately introduced for extending and improving the work of observation, and the publication of meteorological data. The scheme does not supersede previous arrangements, but merely corrects their defects, and is intended, in its general character to fulfil what was stated by the Famine Commissioners to be one of the most important duties of the Meteorological Department, viz. the early and punctual supply of accurate meteorological information to the Executive Government and district and other officials. Bengal has been divided for the purpose of observations into the seven circles shown in the margin. Each circle is a fairly homogeneous area, differing from the others in its meteorological features, more especially in the amount and distribution of its rainfall; and it is represented by from three to seven observing stations, each of the latter being connected with from three to five rainfall recording stations. The number of additional observatories thus established is 21, and that of additional rainfall recording stations 156. All portions of the province have in this manner been brought under daily observation, and it is hoped that the facts which will by this means come upon record will enable a sufficient foundation to be laid for a trustworthy system of economic meteorology for Bengal. The result of the system will be fully stated in the next Report.

(1) Orissa.
(2) South-Western Bengal, comprising the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions.
(3) Eastern Bengal, comprising the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions.
(4) Northern Bengal, comprising the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Divisions.
(5) Northern Behar, comprising the districts of Behar north of the Ganges.
(6) Southern Behar, comprising the districts south of the Ganges.
(7) Chota Nagpore.

Operations of the past year.

During the past year meteorological observations were taken regularly at one first class observatory, seven second class observatories, and twelve third class observatories in the provinces of Bengal and Assam; and an additional third class observatory was established at Tura in the Garo Hills in the month of March 1883.

Second class observatories.

As in the previous year, five of the second class observatories were situated in Bengal and two in Assam; and five were furnished with self-registering anemographs. They were generally in a satisfactory condition.

Third class observatories.

The number of third class observatories was thirteen, ten being situated in Bengal, one in Burmah (Akyab), and two in Assam (Silchar and Tura). Some of these are quite equal to the second class observatories as regards the accuracy and value of their observations.

Rainfall recording stations.

Rainfall returns were received during the past year from 164 sub-divisional stations. They were submitted punctually in the great majority of cases, and the monthly return of rainfall throughout the provinces for each month of the year, prepared from these returns, was published in the *Gazette* on the third or fourth week of the ensuing month.

Storm-signals.

No severe cyclone occurred in the Bay during 1882. Six cyclonic vortices formed near the head of the Bay, and advanced across the Bengal or Orissa coast into the interior, but only two of these, which occurred in September and October respectively, were of sufficient intensity to justify the hoisting of the storm-signals.

The Meteorological Reporter was engaged during the year in an investigation of all the storms which have occurred in the Bay of Bengal between 1875 and 1880, the object being to determine the relations between storm occurrence in the Bay and the general character of the monsoon, and also, if possible, the distribution of south-west monsoon storms in the Bay with respect to time and place.

The improved system of storm-signals, referred to in the last Report, was sanctioned in August 1882, and brought into operation almost immediately. The original object of the storm-signals was to forewarn the Port of

the approach of severe cyclones, attended by storm-waves, such for example as those of 1864 and 1867. Recent experience has, however, shown that, although severe cyclones, accompanied by storm-waves, are of comparatively rare occurrence at the head of the Bay, cyclonic storms of limited extent and intensity are frequently formed during the rains, and are a source of danger to shipping entering or leaving the mouth of the river. The storm-signals hitherto employed were only intended to give warning of the formation and approach of storms of the first kind; hence it became necessary to extend or modify the system of signals in order to be able to give warning of the advance of these smaller cyclonic storms dangerous to shipping in or near the mouth of the river, as well as to shipping in the Port.

Daily Weather Reports.

The daily weather reports were published in the same form as during the previous year. They were supplied to 27 subscribers and 23 Government officials at the commencement, and 29 subscribers and 30 Government officials at the end of the year. The receipts from subscriptions more than covered the cost of printing and distributing the reports. An improvement has been made in the form and size of the report and chart; and, although the number of subscribers has not increased much, it is believed that the report and chart are found to be of use.

Marine meteorology.

A fair amount of work was done during the year in the department of marine meteorology, the office establishment of which was increased with the sanction of the Government of India. The work to be done consisted of two parts. The first was the discussion of the observations taken on board vessels navigating the Indian seas, collected by the Board of Trade in England some years ago, and made over to the Indian Meteorological Office; and the preparation of charts embodying the information given by these observations of the pressure, winds, currents, &c., in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea. During the early part of the year the barometric observations were taken up with a view to determine the amount and character of the diurnal oscillation in the Bay; and by the end of the year the curves had been worked out for all the months, excepting December, and were ready for publication. The second branch of the work was the collection of current meteorological data of the Bay from every available source. Forms were prepared, a supply of which is included in the papers handed over by pilots to the captains of vessels entering the river. A large number of captains have complied with the request of the department to furnish extracts of meteorological data in their logs for the Bay of Bengal and Indian Seas, and three hundred and forty-five sets of returns were filled up and sent in. Many of these were of great value, and showed that accurate meteorological observations are taken on board a fair proportion of the ships navigating the Bay, and the information contained in them has been extracted and entered in books for permanent record. The information they give is also being added to the daily weather charts for India, prepared in the India Meteorological Office. The extracts seem to indicate clearly the general truth of what had been previously surmised, namely, that the weather in the whole extent of the Bay, excluding the Andaman sea, is fairly indicated by the observations taken at the coast stations, and that the progress of every important storm may be traced and followed with more or less exactness, almost from its origin, from the shore observations.

In addition to this information, observations have been taken at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. on board the light vessels near the mouth of the Hooghly. These observations have been carefully examined, and are believed to be accurate and trustworthy. They are very valuable as extending our knowledge of the meteorology of this part of India to a distance of 40 miles beyond the coast seawards.

METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY FOR 1882.

Atmospheric pressure.

During 1882 the variations of the pressure from the normal distribution were unusually large, and also much more irregular in character than is generally the case. The causes of these large fluctuations of pressure over considerable areas, persistent for periods varying for two or three months to as many years, are as yet almost entirely unknown.

The year commenced with excessive pressure over nearly the whole province. At Purneah and Calcutta the pressure was slightly below the average. The excess was not large in Behar or West Bengal. In South-Eastern Bengal, as represented by Jessore, Dacca, and Chittagong, the air pressure was about a tenth of an inch above the average. The excess was greatest at Cuttack, where it amounted to ·15″, and at False Point, where it was very nearly two tenths of an inch. The air motion at the Bengal stations indicates that the Orissa and South-East Bengal areas of high pressure during the month were connected by a belt of high pressure running across the north of the Bay, the axis of which probably extended from False Point to Chittagong.

The unusually high pressure which characterized the month of January, and which accompanied, and was probably related to, the absence of the cold weather rains in Northern India, was followed in February by diminished pressure. The defect was nowhere large. That it was mainly, if not entirely, the return bound or the opposite phase of an oscillation which had commenced in the beginning of January is shown by the fact that the deficiency was greatest at the same stations where the excess was a maximum during the previous month. At Chittagong the pressure was ·046″ below the average, at False Point ·033″, and at Cuttack ·023″. The deficiency averaged ·01″ over Bengal and Behar.

Pressure during the following month of March varied very slightly from the average. The defect in Bengal and Orissa (except perhaps at False Point) nowhere exceeded a hundreth of an inch. In Behar and Chota Nagpore, as represented by the three stations of Patna, Gya, and Hazaribagh, pressure was slightly above the average. This area continued for the greater part of the year to present the same feature of slightly increased pressure. The centre of this area, as indicated by the barometric returns, was Gya. Unfortunately it was found in December 1882 that the Gya observer had fallen into careless and inaccurate methods of observation, and the evidence for the abnormal feature of relatively high pressure in Behar and Chota Nagpore rests therefore mainly on the general agreement of the observations over this area than on the actual figures.

Pressure continued to be slightly below the average during the month of April in Bengal and Orissa, and in excess in Behar. It fell slightly below the average at Hazaribagh, showing that the area of relatively high pressure had advanced northwards. This is confirmed by the fact that the pressure at Durbhunga for this month was slightly in excess, whereas in March it was below the average.

Pressure diminished to a smaller extent than usual during the month of May, so that at all stations it was in excess of the normal amount. The excess was largest at Berhampore, Gya, Patna, and Durbhunga, indicating the continued existence of relatively high pressure over the same area as during the months of March and April. Over the remainder of the province the excess varied very slightly, and averaged ·02″.

Pressure fell below the average during the month of June, except at Berhampore, Patna, and probably Gya, where it was slightly in excess. The defect varied from ·01″ to ·02″, and was greatest at Calcutta and Cuttack. The deficiency of pressure over the greater part of the province increased during the following month. It was greatest at Cuttack (·07″), Calcutta, Chittagong (·05″), and Saugor Island (·04″). Hence the belt of excessive pressure at the head of the Bay at the beginning of the year had not only passed away, but was replaced during the first two months of the rains by an area of low pressure over the head of the Bay and the adjacent coasts. This area appears to have exercised a considerable influence in modifying the monsoon rains in Bengal at this period. The pressure in Behar, as shown by the returns of Gya, Patna, and Durbhunga, was slightly in excess of the normal pressure.

During the next month (August) pressure increased more rapidly than usual, so that it was either normal or slightly in excess. The excess was greatest in Central Behar, where it probably averaged ·02″. In Bengal it nowhere exceeded ·01″, except at Saugor Island, where it amounted to ·026″. This tendency towards slightly increased pressure at Saugor Island relative to the neighbouring stations of False Point, Cuttack, Calcutta, and Burdwan was exhibited from the month of May until the end of the rains.

with 1881-82. The abstract below shows the quantity and value of the principal staples carried during the past year :—

Chief Articles of Downward Traffic.

Articles.		Quantity.	Value. Rs.
Caoutchouc	Mds.	325	16,250
Stick-lac	"	318	11,130
Tea, Indian	"	62,908	37,74,480

Chief Articles of Upward Traffic.

Articles.		Quantity.	Value. Rs.
Piece-goods (European) ...	Rs.	.....	9,15,656
Drugs and medicines ...	"	.....	15,090
Liquors	"	.....	17,772
Brass and copper and their manufactures	Mds.	412	16,480
Iron and its manufactures ...	"	3,627	21,762

TRAFFIC ALONG THE RAILWAYS.

Since October 1877 the traffic on the East Indian Railway carried downward and upwards to and from Bengal has been registered under the block system of registration, the details of which have already been explained in previous reports, while the statistics of trade carried along the Eastern Bengal line have since January 1878 been confined to the registration of the import and export trade of Calcutta alone. Under orders received from the Government of India, arrangements have, as stated above, been made by the Government of Bengal, with effect from the commencement of the current official year, to register the rail-borne traffic in Bengal carried along the East Indian and the Eastern Bengal Railways and connected lines in accordance with the system in force in other parts of India.

East Indian Railway.

As in 1881-82, the compilation of the statistics of trade carried along the East Indian Railway was effected under five different trade blocks, which are shown in column I of the tabular statement given below. The total weight and value of the import and export trade of each of those blocks during the past year, as compared with the figures of the previous year, are shown in the following statement:—

Specification of Blocks.		Imports.		Exports.		Grand Total.	
		Quantity, exclusive of railway materials.	Value.	Quantity, exclusive of railway materials.	Value.	Quantity, exclusive of railway materials.	Value.
Block I.		Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Howrah and Calcutta	1881-82	3,20,98,798	21,74,90,154	76,51,986	15,83,70,202	3,97,50,784	37,58,60,356
	1882-83	3,48,22,369	25,32,74,027	82,51,212	15,78,69,797	4,30,73,581	41,11,43,824
Block II.							
Western Bengal	1881-82	29,50,806	2,38,88,791	2,53,12,279	3,90,14,080	2,82,63,085	6,29,02,821
	1882-83	30,35,062	2,46,46,853	2,71,17,539	4,27,05,315	3,01,52,601	6,73,52,168
Block III.							
Eastern Bengal	1881-82	923	10,996	250	9,393	1,173	20,389
	1882-83	3,280	37,051	637	9,224	3,917	46,275
Block IV.							
Northern Bengal	1881-82	4,091	35,993	3,350	9,04,070	7,441	9,40,063
	1882-83	3,598	39,324	5,422	10,85,542	9,020	11,24,866
Block V.							
Behar	1881-82	86,40,550	6,96,15,267	1,29,90,270	11,52,51,524	2,16,30,820	18,48,66,791
	1882-83	93,34,639	7,03,93,007	1,13,65,462	12,35,11,687	2,07,00,101	19,39,04,694
Total ...	1881-82	4,36,95,168	31,10,41,201	4,59,58,135	31,35,49,219	8,96,53,303	62,45,90,420
	1882-83	4,71,98,948	34,83,90,262	4,67,40,272	32,51,81,565	9,39,39,220	67,35,71,827

The net amount of traffic carried downwards and upwards during the past two years is shown in the subjoined statement:—

Direction of the Trade.	Quantity, exclusive of railway materials.		Value.	
	1881-82.	1882-83.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Mds.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.
Downward traffic	3,46,56,017	3,74,52,153	23,52,00,790	27,11,47,523
Upward „	2,19,38,304	2,10,72,207	19,12,46,510	18,92,85,159
Total ...	5,65,94,321	5,85,24,360	42,64,47,300	46,04,32,682

The advance in the down traffic was 8·07 per cent. over the figures of 1881-82 and 30·76 per cent. over those of 1880-81. As regards the up traffic, there was a small decrease of 3·95 per cent. on the returns of 1881-82, but an increase of 2·96 per cent. when compared with those of 1880-81. The proportion borne by the Calcutta traffic to the total trade was 73·60 per cent., against 70·24 and 74·55 per cent. in the two years 1881-82 and 1880-81 respectively. The chief staples of traffic carried each way during the past two years are shown in the following statement:—

Chief Staples of Traffic.		Downward traffic.	Upward traffic.	Grand Total of Traffic registered.		Proportion of Calcutta Traffic to the Total Trade.	
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Coal	1881-82	1,12,48,220	57,85,633	1,70,33,853	1,27,75,690	1,12,52,181	84,39,136
	1882-83	1,33,45,610	55,12,670	1,88,58,280	1,41,43,709	1,33,48,741	1,00,11,555
Cotton, raw ...	1881-82	11,04,264	3,354	11,07,618	1,88,29,506	9,59,998	1,63,19,966
	1882-83	8,59,709	5,822	8,65,531	1,38,48,496	7,14,475	1,14,31,600
Cotton twist and yarn (European and Indian). .	1881-82	2,580	1,08,404	1,10,984	61,75,150	1,07,958	60,46,320
	1882-83	5,331	1,33,421	1,38,752	73,14,220	1,35,156	71,75,460
Cotton piece-goods (European and Indian).	1881-82	26,212	12,50,014	12,76,226	9,61,73,100	12,58,619	9,46,12,650
	1882-83	27,824	12,51,358	12,79,182	9,64,46,880	12,61,146	9,48,49,575
Indigo	1881-82	1,18,494	830	1,19,324	2,74,44,520	1,18,997	2,73,69,310
	1882-83	1,26,005	776	1,26,781	2,78,91,820	1,26,455	2,78,20,100
Miscellaneous dyeing materials.	1881-82	13,285	61,137	74,422	22,32,660	32,871	9,86,130
	1882-83	24,451	52,289	76,740	23,02,200	37,928	11,37,840
Fibres, manufactured	1881-82	49,997	5,72,401	6,22,398	62,80,906	4,92,551	47,22,742
	1882-83	39,225	6,31,966	6,71,191	59,73,256	5,00,154	42,62,886
Wheat	1881-82	85,47,449	2,087	85,49,536	2,24,42,531	84,45,919	2,21,70,537
	1882-83	63,25,311	1,356	63,26,667	1,58,16,667	62,55,806	1,56,39,515
Gram and pulse ...	1881-82	17,54,586	6,14,139	23,68,725	47,37,450	13,67,790	27,35,580
	1882-83	21,36,582	81,909	22,18,491	44,36,982	16,91,811	33,83,622
Rice	1881-82	15,69,419	22,04,150	37,73,569	70,75,442	16,49,865	30,93,497
	1882-83	10,96,695	20,33,830	31,30,525	58,69,734	11,93,529	22,37,867
Other food-grains ...	1881-82	1,33,854	4,56,665	5,90,519	11,81,038	1,30,576	2,61,152
	1882-83	2,18,565	27,998	2,46,563	4,93,126	2,12,570	4,25,140
Hides	1881-82	4,83,646	4,037	4,87,683	1,07,29,026	4,37,166	96,17,652
	1882-83	5,62,028	1,618	5,63,646	1,24,00,212	5,42,914	1,19,44,108
Shell-lac... ...	1881-82	1,28,144	1,066	1,29,210	58,14,450	1,28,290	57,73,050
	1882-83	1,70,737	10,016	1,80,753	81,33,885	1,71,586	77,21,370
Lime	1881-82	8,62,193	76,221	4,38,414	4,93,216	3,21,769	3,41,880
	1882-83	4,93,314	78,822	5,72,136	6,07,894	4,63,644	4,92,621
Liquors	1881-82	6,514	1,40,454	1,46,968	79,36,272	1,46,193	78,94,422
	1882-83	4,161	90,122	94,283	50,91,282	89,755	48,46,770

Chief Staples of Traffic.		Downward traffic.	Upward traffic.	Grand Total of Traffic registered.		Proportion of Calcutta Traffic to the Total Trade.	
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Brass and copper ...	1881-82	28,527	1,71,131	1,99,658	79,86,320	1,80,394	72,15,760
	1882-83	29,503	1,93,958	2,23,461	89,38,440	2,04,651	81,86,040
Iron	1881-82	33,802	12,33,004	12,66,806	76,00,836	12,33,642	74,01,852
	1882-83	1,08,555	13,20,400	14,28,955	85,73,730	13,85,478	83,12,868
Oils	1881-82	20,978	84,592	1,05,570	7,61,742	98,497	6,76,866
	1882-83	27,315	1,01,697	1,29,012	9,41,106	1,18,886	8,19,594
Opium	1881-82	91,915	281	92,196	7,37,56,800	91,988	7,35,90,400
	1882-83	1,25,659	2,668	1,28,327	10,26,61,600	1,27,785	10,22,28,000
Ghee	1881-82	1,37,981	1,821	1,39,802	40,54,258	1,27,113	36,86,277
	1882-83	1,51,768	1,363	1,53,131	44,40,799	1,41,925	41,15,825
Salt	1881-82	1,52,025	28,52,379	30,04,404	1,29,56,492	28,64,280	1,23,52,207
	1882-83	40,769	34,57,984	34,98,753	1,13,70,947	34,39,652	1,11,78,869
Saltpetre ...	1881-82	5,25,977	463	5,26,440	42,11,520	5,26,027	42,08,216
	1882-83	6,22,281	2,456	6,24,737	49,97,896	6,23,644	49,89,152
Linseed	1881-82	22,88,148	545	22,88,693	97,26,945	22,16,108	94,18,459
	1882-83	33,30,237	523	33,30,760	1,33,23,040	33,04,079	1,32,16,316
Mustard-seed ...	1881-82	25,28,392	3,092	25,31,484	91,76,629	19,40,291	70,33,554
	1882-83	[illegible]	2,606	37,73,565	1,36,79,173	31,73,793	1,15,04,999
Til-seed	1881-82	4,52,635	20	4,52,655	[illegible]	4,49,576	17,99,104
	1882-83	2,81,512	180	2,81,692	11,26,768	2,77,797	11,11,188
Other oil-seeds ...	1881-82	9,78,809	7,191	9,86,000	30,81,250	9,32,788	29,14,963
	1882-83	11,11,729	1,327	11,13,056	34,78,300	10,30,987	32,21,834
Silk, raw ...	1881-82	8,627	4,782	13,409	67,04,500	9,813	49,06,500
	1882-83	10,454	5,001	15,455	73,41,125	12,012	57,05,700
Do., manufactured	1881-82	5,483	5,422	10,905	81,78,750	6,669	50,01,750
	1882-83	6,183	6,421	12,604	1,15,43,600	7,010	63,09,000
Sugar, refined ...	1881-82	71,674	2,30,840	3,02,514	45,37,710	77,901	11,68,515
	1882-83	1,24,898	2,00,193	3,25,091	45,51,274	1,21,726	17,04,164
Do., unrefined ...	1881-82	64,793	3,95,357	4,60,150	34,51,125	48,332	3,62,489
	1882-83	75,294	3,79,894	4,55,188	34,13,910	45,578	3,41,835
Tea	1881-82	9,111	12,123	21,234	12,60,815	21,053	12,49,980
	1882-83	17,506	5,511	23,017	13,79,675	22,825	13,68,155
Tobacco	1881-82	1,49,335	1,91,476	3,40,811	22,15,272	15,975	1,03,837
	1882-83	1,77,665	1,58,246	3,35,911	28,55,243	19,678	1,67,262
Timber	1881-82	9,611	1,84,038	1,93,649	4,84,122	1,75,547	4,38,868
	1882-83	23,642	99,120	1,22,762	3,06,905	99,121	2,47,802

TRAFFIC ALONG THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

The total quantity and value of merchandise imported into, and exported from, Calcutta by the Eastern Bengal Railway during the past two years are shown in the following statement:—

Year.	Imports into Calcutta.		Exports from Calcutta.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
1881-82	91,45,740	6,07,93,916	33,95,970	4,52,99,878	1,25,41,710	10,60,93,794
1882-83	1,00,10,958	6,35,93,444	35,57,337	4,20,47,866	1,35,68,295	10,56,41,310

The following statements show the quantity and value of the principal staples during the past two years:—

Imports.

		1881-82.	1882-83.
Cotton, raw	Mds.	34,664	41,266
Cotton twist and yarn (Indian)	"	18,314	23,086
Indigo	"	9,397	9,233
Jute, raw	"	57,83,536	70,01,350
Gunny-bags	No.	7,467,653	12,554,196
Wheat	Mds.	1,71,850	67,440
Rice	"	7,97,802	4,90,932
Hides of cattle	No.	1,294,492	1,612,929
Linseed	Mds.	1,24,791	1,21,428
Mustard-seed	"	69,575	42,304
Silk, raw	"	7,073	7,514
Sugar, unrefined	"	2,12,955	2,47,624
Tea, Indian	"	2,06,832	2,17,298
Tobacco	"	2,35,588	3,04,424

Exports.

Coal and coke	Mds.	5,65,856	1,79,818
Cotton twist and yarn (European) ...	"	46,562	38,452
Cotton piece-goods (European)	Rs.	2,90,32,050	2,75,15,831
Gunny-bags	No.	635,826	410,597
Rice	Mds.	2,22,236	2,12,200
Liquors	Rs.	2,28,834	2,03,335
Brass and copper	Mds.	35,660	29,565
Iron	"	1,87,693	2,21,260
Oil	"	50,555	54,664
Opium	"	532	596
Salt	"	10,94,239	10,13,187

TRAFFIC ALONG STATE RAILWAYS.

The total quantity and value of the trade carried along the different State Railways in Bengal during 1882-83, as compared with the figures of the previous year, were as follows:—

	1881-82.		1882-83.	
	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway	10,15,388	10,47,746	11,82,719	10,47,607
Northern Bengal State Railway ...	42,63,011	3,85,90,198	51,19,052	4,60,69,423
Nalhati State Railway	2,71,136	92,80,353	3,07,279	1,05,49,561
Tirhoot State Railway	24,02,047	3,12,57,756	32,85,716	3,81,45,816
Gya State Railway	15,30,466	2,54,62,485	16,66,101	2,61,77,427
Total ...	94,82,048	10,56,38,538	1,15,60,867	12,19,89,834

Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway.

The total weight and value of goods carried along the Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway during the past two years, exclusive of railway materials, were—

	Traffic towards Calcutta.	Traffic from Calcutta.	Total.	
	Quantity.	Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Rs.
1881-82	9,47,307	68,081	10,15,388	10,47,746
1882-83	11,15,087	67,632	11,82,719	10,47,607

The principal staples comprising the downward and upward traffic are exhibited in the following statements :—

Downward.

			Quantity.		Value.	
			1881-82.	1882-83.	1881-82.	1882-83.
					Rs.	Rs.
Linseed ...	... 1881-82	Mds.	2,76,182	2,46,518	5,17,841	4,62,221
	1882-83	33,30,2[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	18,745	38,914
[illegible]	... 1881-82	25,28,392	3,092	25,31,484	91,76,629	19,40,291
			[illegible]	37,73,565	1,36,79,173	31,73,793

Upward.

			Quantity.		Value.	
			1881-82.	1882-83.	1881-82.	1882-83.
					Rs.	Rs.
Coal and coke	Mds.	...	26,157	16,164	19,617	12,123
Piece-goods	Rs.	...	.....	.....	.....	26,175
Gunny-bags	No.	...	182,805	118,160	49,619	28,696
Iron	Mds.	...	1,976	948	11,856	5,688
Oil	"	...	585	732	3,510	4,392
Tobacco	"	...	288	488	1,872	4,148

Northern Bengal State Railway.

The amount of traffic carried by the Northern Bengal State Railway during the past two years, exclusive of railway materials, was as follows:—

	Down Traffic.		Up Traffic.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
1881-82 ...	26,16,873	2,00,68,273	16,46,138	1,85,21,925	42,63,011	3,85,90,198
1882-83 ...	33,39,507	2,62,93,879	17,79,545	1,97,75,544	51,19,052	4,60,69,423

The largest increase in the down traffic as compared with that of the preceding year was in gunnies (5,737,585 pieces), jute (6,79,062 maunds), tobacco (86,069 maunds), drugs and medicines (Rs. 56,255 in value), Indian tea (40,216 maunds), and hides (15,728 pieces); while in the up traffic, European piece-goods showed an increase of Rs. 18,09,825 in value, salt of 44,018 maunds, and rice of 31,473 maunds. The abstract below shows the quantity

and value of the principal articles carried by this line during the past two years :—

Name of Staple.			Down traffic.	Up traffic.	Total. Quantity.	Total. Value.
						Rs.
Cotton, twist and yarn (European)	Mds.	1881-82	.....	8,996	8,996	5,84,740
		1882-83	.....	11,392	11,392	7,40,480
Cotton piece-goods (European) ...	Rs.	1881-82	1,09,500	90,89,775	.....	91,99,275
		1882-83	1,44,675	1,08,99,600	.....	1,10,44,275
Jute	Mds.	1881-82	12,24,360	189	12,24,549	55,10,476
		1882-83	19,03,422	594	19,04,016	66,64,056
Gunny-bags	No.	1881-82	5,307,925	395,640	5,708,565	14,10,431
		1882-83	11,045,510	221,375	11,266,885	27,36,243
Gram and pulse	Mds.	1881-82	92,074	56,050	1,48,124	2,96,248
		1882-83	72,554	86,312	1,58,866	3,17,732
Rice, not in the husk	"	1881-82	5,95,635	1,81,595	7,77,230	14,57,306
		1882-83	3,02,049	2,13,068	5,15,117	10,94,623
Rice, in the husk	"	1881-82	32,662	18,002	50,664	56,997
		1882-83	35,986	21,296	57,282	64,442
Hides of cattle	No.	1881-82	138,968	1,744	140,712	3,86,958
		1882-83	154,696	7,176	161,872	4,45,148
Liquors	Rs.	1881-82	13,662	8,05,302	.....	8,18,964
		1882-83	3,564	6,02,046	.....	6,05,610
Brass and copper, and their manufactures.	Mds.	1881-82	237	17,438	17,675	7,07,000
		1882-83	1,060	7,096	8,156	3,26,240
Iron and its manufactures ...	"	1881-82	13,471	1,05,830	1,19,301	7,15,806
		1882-83	6,330	1,03,157	1,09,487	6,56,922
Opium	"	1881-82	.....	14	14	11,200
		1882-83	12	326	338	2,70,400
Ghee	"	1881-82	677	14,932	15,609	4,52,661
		1882-83	565	1,424	1,989	57,681
Salt	"	1881-82	743	4,36,011	4,36,754	18,83,501
		1882-83	872	4,80,029	4,80,901	15,62,928
Sugar, refined and unrefined ...	"	1881-82	2,755	36,363	39,118	4,40,077
		1882-83	1,061	25,925	26,986	2,90,099
Tea, Indian	"	1881-82	1,18,222	60	1,18,282	70,96,920
		1882-83	1,58,438	105	1,58,543	95,12,580
Tobacco	"	1881-82	2,49,953	2,494	2,52,447	16,40,905
		1882-83	3,36,022	3,252	3,39,274	28,83,829

Nalhati State Railway.

The total quantity and value of goods carried along the Nalhati State Railway during the past two years, exclusive of railway materials, were—

Year.	Nalhati to Azimgunge.	Azimgunge to Nalhati.	Total. Quantity.	Total. Value.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1881-82 ...	1,83,293	87,843	2,71,136	92,80,353
1882-83 ...	1,96,521	1,10,758	3,07,279	1,05,49,561

The following statement shows the quantities and values of the principal staples :—

Chief Articles of Traffic.			Nalhati to Azimgunge.	Azimgunge to Nalhati.	Total. Quantity.	Total. Value.
						Rs.
Cotton, raw	Mds.	1881-82	6,304	.....	6,304	1,07,168
		1882-83	6,688	.....	6,688	1,07,008
Cotton piece-goods	Rs.	1881-82	17,73,360	10,065	.....	17,83,425
		1882-83	17,98,590	10,860	.....	18,09,450
Metals and manufactures of metals.	Mds.	1881-82	2,983	2,337	5,320	1,58,852
		1882-83	4,261	2,251	6,512	1,65,862
Silk, raw	"	1881-82	284	5,406	5,690	28,45,000
		1882-83	4	4,470	4,474	21,25,150
Silk, manufactured	Rs.	1881-82	2,15,250	29,09,250	.....	31,24,500
		1882-83	7,200	52,75,800	.....	52,83,000

Tirhoot State Railway.

The total quantity and value of the traffic conveyed by the Tirhoot State Railway during the past two years, exclusive of Railway materials, were—

	Downward traffic.	Upward traffic.	Total.	
	Quantity.	Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Rs.
1881-82 ...	11,43,612	12,58,435	24,02,047	3,12,57,756
1882-83 ...	14,00,810	18,84,906	32,85,716	3,81,45,816

In the down trade the figures under indigo, pulses, hides and skins, ghee, saltpetre, and linseed showed a marked increase, but of the up trade the items showing the most noticeable advance over the previous year's figures were coal, European piece-goods, gunnies, rice, gram and pulse, iron, salt, and indigo seed. The following statement shows the quantity and value of the principal staples carried during the past two years:—

Chief Staples of Traffic.			From Mozufferpore and Durbhunga to Bazidpore.	From Bazidpore to Durbhunga and Mozufferpore.	Total.	
					Quantity.	Value.
						Rs.
Cotton, raw	Mds.	1881-82	142	12,642	12,784	2,17,328
		1882-83	61	13,050	13,111	2,09,776
Cotton piece-goods (European)	Rs.	1881-82	9,450	79,25,625	.....	79,35,075
		1882-83	12,675	1,00,82,700	.....	1,00,95,375
Ditto (Indian) ...	"	1881-82	77,400	7,25,940	.....	8,03,340
		1882-83	49,860	4,44,780	.....	4,94,640
Indigo	Mds.	1881-82	44,414	24	44,438	1,02,20,740
		1882-83	52,255	1,534	53,789	1,18,33,580
Gunny-bags	No.	1881-82	154,490	521,080	675,570	1,83,369
		1882-83	162,575	772,660	935,235	2,27,129
Wheat	Mds.	1881-82	50,784	2,917	53,701	1,40,965
		1882-83	15,528	2,302	17,830	44,575
Gram and pulse	"	1881-82	34,778	95,010	1,29,788	2,59,576
		1882-83	56,510	1,84,249	2,40,759	4,81,518
Rice	"	1881-82	1,92,242	9,854	2,02,096	3,78,930
		1882-83	1,65,640	52,290	2,17,930	4,08,618
Hides and skins	"	1881-82	44,433	1,391	45,824	10,13,934
		1882-83	66,434	2,661	69,095	14,57,418
Lac—shell, stick, and other kinds	"	1881-82	35	5,985	6,020	2,28,760
		1882-83	58	6,810	6,868	2,40,380
Liquors	Rs.	1881-82	6,318	3,69,306	.....	3,75,624
		1882-83	2,322	3,64,284	.....	3,66,606
Ghee	Mds.	1881-82	12,835	30	12,865	3,73,085
		1882-83	25,107	38	25,145	7,29,205
Salt	"	1881-82	26,400	3,58,619	3,85,019	16,60,395
		1882-83	7,394	4,99,659	5,07,053	16,47,922
Saltpetre	"	1881-82	1,00,764	10	1,00,774	8,06,192
		1882-83	1,45,031	17,584	1,62,615	13,00,920
Linseed	"	1881-82	2,31,434	6,545	2,37,979	10,11,411
		1882-83	4,91,705	968	4,92,673	19,70,692
Indigo-seed	"	1881-82	3,927	69,888	73,815	5,90,520
		1882-83	6,010	1,67,314	1,73,324	13,86,592
Sugar	"	1881-82	10,675	2,735	13,410	1,50,862
		1882-83	16,096	4,020	20,116	2,16,247
Tobacco	"	1881-82	2,11,036	1,471	2,12,507	13,81,295
		1882-83	1,96,751	1,577	1,98,328	16,85,788

Gya State Railway.

In January 1883 the Gya State Railway was transferred to the East Indian Railway. The returns of the trade carried by this line from April to December 1882 were furnished by the Examiner of Accounts of State Railways, and those from January to March 1883 by the Agent of the East Indian Railway.

The total traffic attracted to this line during the past two years, exclusive of Railway materials, was as follows:—

Year.	Towards Gya. Quantity.	From Gya. Quantity.	Total. Quantity.	Total. Value.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Rs.
1881-82	5,58,696	9,71,770	15,30,466	2,54,62,485
1882-83	5,81,421	10,84,680	16,66,101	2,61,77,427

The most important items of traffic carried by this route during the same two years are shown in the following statement:—

Chief Staples of Traffic.			Traffic towards Gya.	Traffic from Gya.	Total. Quantity.	Total. Value.
						Rs.
Cotton, raw	Mds.	1881-82	15,705	133	15,838	2,69,246
		1882-83	14,595	12	14,607	2,33,712
Cotton piece-goods (European) ...	Rs.	1881-82	21,52,575	5,775	.....	21,58,350
		1882-83	21,44,100	4,050	.....	21,48,150
Ditto (Indian) ...	"	1881-82	2,35,260	78,390	.....	3,13,650
		1882-83	2,85,750	93,600	.....	3,79,350
Gunny-bags	No.	1881-82	301,210	93,800	395,010	1,07,217
		1882-83	373,975	125,055	499,030	1,21,193
Wheat	Mds.	1881-82	1,376	73,587	74,963	1,96,777
		1882-83	205	42,114	42,319	1,05,797
Gram and pulse	"	1881-82	36,983	79,330	1,16,313	2,32,626
		1882-83	95,942	88,274	1,84,216	3,68,432
Rice	"	1881-82	970	75,309	76,279	1,43,023
		1882-83	1,693	65,554	67,247	1,26,088
Lac—shell, stick, and other kinds	"	1881-82	436	35,015	35,451	13,47,138
		1882-83	86	52,036	52,122	18,24,217
Opium	"	1881-82	.....	16,360	16,360	1,30,88,000
		1882-83	.....	13,981	13,981	1,11,84,800
Salt	"	1881-82	1,76,472	799	1,77,271	7,64,481
		1882-83	1,73,534	434	1,73,968	5,68,396
Saltpetre	"	1881-82	92	6,217	6,309	50,472
		1882-83	61	5,903	5,964	47,712
Linseed	"	1881-82	260	1,52,715	1,52,975	6,50,144
		1882-83	.....	1,53,594	1,53,594	6,14,376
Sugar	"	1881-82	9,710	3,25,848	3,35,558	37,75,027
		1882-83	10,204	3,93,261	4,03,465	43,37,240
Tobacco	"	1881-83	43,922	351	44,272	2,87,768
		1882-83	40,181	736	40,91[illegible]	3,47,794

EXTERNAL TRADE OF BENGAL WITH NEPAL, SIKKIM, AND BHUTAN.

As in the previous four years, the collection of statistics of the external trade of Bengal with Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhutan was limited to the registration of the traffic passing along all the important trade routes, of which there are 32 on the northern frontier of Bengal between the districts of Chumparun and Julpigoree.

The total value of this trade registered during 1882-83, as compared with the figures of the preceding year, was as follows:—

	Imports into Bengal from—		Exports from Bengal to—	
	1881-82.	1882-83.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Nepal ...	75,42,743	75,60,604	55,36,668	55,57,525
Sikkim ...	1,67,533	2,00,148	86,011	1,16,294
Bhutan ...	1,23,048	1,11,442	1,05,168	86,693
Total ...	78,33,324	78,72,194	57,27,847	57,60,512

These figures represent the traffic to and from stations in Bengal only. The amount of traffic with other provinces passing through the trade routes in Bengal was as follows:—

Year.	Imports into other provinces from Nepal.	Exports from other provinces to Nepal.
	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	4,38,040	5,63,732
1882-83	4,55,050	4,29,117

The combined total of these two sections of the registered trade during the past two years is shown below:—

Year.	Imports into Bengal.	Exports from Bengal.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	82,71,364	62,91,579	1,45,62,943
1882-83	83,27,244	61,89,629	1,45,16,873

The gross value of the traffic registered during the past year thus shows a trifling decrease of Rs. 46,070 as compared with 1881-82. In the import trade there was an increase amounting to ·68 per cent., but the exports indicate a falling off of 1·62 per cent.

Trade with Nepal.

During the year under review there were altogether 27 frontier posts situated on the different important routes of traffic, for the registration of the trade of Bengal with Nepal. The total value of this trade registered during the past two years was as follows:—

	Imports from Nepal.	Exports to Nepal.	Grand total of value.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	75,42,743	55,36,668	1,30,79,411
1882-83	75,60,604	55,57,525	1,31,18 129

The following statement shows the import, export and total trade, in each of the principal staples of traffic during the past two years. The figures shown here, however, represent the net traffic between Bengal and Nepal after

deducting such portion of it as passed into and from other provinces through Bengal :—

Names of Articles.		Quantity.			Value.		
		Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cattle ... ... No.	1881-82	21,318	5,433	26,751	5,32,950	1,35,825	6,68,775
	1882-83	18,358	3,795	22,153	4,58,950	94,875	5,53,825
Sheep and goats ... "	1881-82	29,165	21,738	50,903	72,913	54,347	1,27,260
	1882-83	36,771	18,512	55,283	91,930	46,281	1,38,211
Cotton, raw ... ... Mds.	1881-82	1,871	5,623	7,494	31,807	95,591	1,27,398
	1882-83	1,613	8,154	9,767	27,421	1,38,618	1,66,039
Piece-goods (European) Rs.	1881-82	.....	.....	.....	68,984	18,34,818	19,03,802
	1882-83	.....	.....	.....	19,513	18,19,592	18,39,105
Piece-goods (Indian) ... "	1881-82	.....	.....	.....	23,448	2,32,693	2,56,141
	1882-83	.....	.....	.....	5,196	1,78,058	1,83,254
Other fibres, raw ... Mds.	1881-82	14,477	1,040	15,517	94,399	6,808	1,01,207
	1882-83	4,441	223	4,664	28,867	1,451	30,318
Gram and pulse ... "	1881-82	64,762	7,037	71,799	1,63,606	19,097	1 82,703
	1882-83	58,258	8,939	67,197	1,16,516	17,878	1,34,394
Other spring crops ... "	1881-82	43,162	1,711	44,873	97,501	3,530	1,01,031
	1882-83	58,164	385	58,549	1,09,055	722	1,09,777
Rice (husked) ... ... "	1881-82	7,47,268	6,123	7,53,391	19,19,430	14,711	19,34,141
	1882-83	8,32,516	2,559	8,35,075	15,61,968	4,794	15,66,762
Rice (unhusked)... ... "	1881-82	6,40,690	2,781	6,43,471	8,85,214	3,671	8,88,885
	1882-83	7,58,458	1,391	7,59,849	8,53,265	1,567	8,54,832
Other rain crops ... "	1881-82	1,73,415	619	1,74,034	3,60,470	1,384	3,61,854
	1882-83	2,28,069	30	2,28,099	4,56,138	60	4,56,198
Hides of cattle ... .. No.	1881-82	32,210	250	32,460	87,040	682	87,722
	1882-83	64,969	.....	64,969	1,78,665	.....	1,78,665
Skins of sheep, goats, and small animals ... "	1881-82	47,709	89	47,798	71,375	134	71,509
	1882-83	67,454	550	68,004	1,01,181	825	1,02,006
Brass and copper ... Mds.	1881-82	875	8,707	9,582	35,000	3,48,280	3,83,280
	1882-83	96	12,323	12,419	3,840	4,92,920	4,96,760
Other kinds of provisions "	1881-82	50,962	50,175	1,01,037	7,01,075	6,96,950	13,98,125
	1882-83	32,917	32,893	65,810	6,58,390	6,57,860	13,16,250
Salt ... ... "	1881-82	1,831	81,450	83,281	7,960	3,27,882	3,35,842
	1882-83	1,503	79,260	80,763	6,481	3,41,644	3,48,125
Linseed ... ... "	1881-82	81,786	1,829	83,615	3,71,829	7,848	3,79,677
	1882-83	1,50,223	222	1,50,445	6,38,446	944	6,39,390
Mustard-seed ... ... "	1881-82	81,373	387	81,760	3,10,984	1,409	3,12,393
	1882-83	71,150	47	71,197	2,57,919	170	2,58,089
Tobacco ... ... "	1881-82	9,379	20,408	29,787	60,963	1,32,651	1,93,614
	1882-83	5,974	23,624	29,598	38,835	1,53,556	1,92,391
Timber ... ... "	1881-82	2,80,982	.....	2,80,982	7,70,290	.....	7,70,290
	1882-83	3,88,740	.....	3,88,740	9,71,852	.....	9,71,852
Wool (manufactured) ... "	1881-82	.....	.....	.....	10,909	2,16 901	2,27,810
	1882-83	.....	.....	.....	4,774	3,36,424	3,41,198

Trade with Sikkim.

The trade of Bengal with Sikkim and Thibet is registered at the frontier stations of Pheydong and Rungeet in the Darjeeling district. The following statement shows the total value of such trade registered during the past two years :—

	Imports from Sikkim.	Exports to Sikkim.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	1,67,533	86,011	2,53,544
1882-83	2,00,148	1,16,294	3,16,442

The total value of the principal articles comprising the import trade during the past two years was—

	Imports from Sikkim.	
	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Rs.	Rs.
Horses	48,225	49,725
Cattle	6,950	7,925
Sheep and goats	15,678	23,999
Miscellaneous rain crops	23,047	33,676
Brass and copper	17,700	8,520
Tea, foreign	3,520	2,310
Wool, raw	.....	2,520
Wool, manufactured	17,294	35,504

The imports of manufactured woollen goods (chiefly blankets) show a large advance, the value being more than double that of the supply registered during the preceding year. One of the most satisfactory features in the trade of the year was the beginning of a steady import of wool. There is an unlimited supply of this staple of excellent quality within a few days' journey from Darjeeling, and there can be no doubt that if all obstructions to communication were removed there would be a free flow of trade. It is interesting to observe that in the first four months of the current year the imports of wool have been double those of the whole of the previous year. The value of foreign tea, which is the brick tea of Thibet, shows a decrease of Rs. 1,210 on the figures of the previous year.

The principal articles exported to Sikkim during the past two years were—

Chief Articles of Trade.	Exports to Sikkim.	
	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Rs.	Rs.
Cattle	6,650	1,275
Piece-goods (European)	29,121	45,702
Ditto (Indian)	382	177
Indigo	11,330	28,520
Rice	7,313	2,329
Brass and copper	5,360	8,120
Paints and colours	10,920	400
Tobacco	4,609	9,666

It has been ascertained that the use of cotton fabrics is becoming popular in Thibet, and that there is a rapidly increasing demand for piece-goods of all kinds. The indigo exports show an advance of 151·72 per cent. on the trade of the preceding year. The large decrease under paints and colours was owing to the return of the trade to its normal state.

Trade with Bhutan.

The different stations for the registration of the trade between Bengal and Bhutan are Ambari, Buxa, and Huntoopara all in the Julpigoree district. The total value of the traffic registered at these posts during the past year, as compared with the totals of the previous year, was as follows:—

Year.	Imports from Bhutan.	Exports to Bhutan.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	1,23,048	1,05,168	2,28,216
1882-83	1,11,442	86,693	1,98,135

each shown after

The principal articles imported from Bhutan during the past year are shown in the following statement:—

Chief Articles of Trade.		Imports from Bhutan, 1882-83.	
		Quantity.	Value.
			Rs.
Horses	No.	765	57,375
Vegetables and other kinds of fruits and nuts, except cocoanuts and betelnuts	Mds.	1,752	3,504
Ghee	"	288	8,352
Tea, foreign	"	36	1,980
Woollen manufactures (piece-goods)	Rs.	.....	16,439

A similar statement shows the chief articles of traffic exported to Bhutan during the year 1882-83:—

Chief Articles of Trade.		Exports to Bhutan, 1882-83.	
		Quantity.	Value.
			Rs.
Piece-goods (European)	Rs.	.....	16,414
Rice	Mds.	5,613	10,772
Betelnuts	"	2,158	17,264
Sugar, unrefined	"	1,102	8,266
Tobacco	"	3,284	21,347
Woollen manufactures (piece-goods) ...	Rs.	.....	3,535

PUBLIC WORKS.

Roads, Buildings, and other Public Works.

THE total outlay of the year on roads, buildings, and other public works in Bengal amounted to Rs. 1,20,70,295. The distribution of this expenditure under the various service heads is shown and compared with the grants for the year in the following table :—

HEADS.	ORIGINAL WORKS.		REPAIRS.		TOTAL.	
	Grant.	Outlay.	Grant.	Outlay.	Grant.	Outlay.
Imperial.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Military works	2,68,420	2,32,247	30,400	25,443	2,98,820	2,57,690
" establishments ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	58,750	59,021
Tools and plant	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,830	3,849
Total Military ...	2,68,420	2,32,247	30,400	25,443	3,61,400	3,20,560
Other services, works	9,64,300	8,01,455	1,79,500	2,75,362	11,43,800	10,76,817
" establishments ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,51,500	2,16,350
Tools and plant	.....	.....	.....	.....	16,400	14,108
Total Other Services ...	9,64,300	8,01,455	1,79,500	2,75,362	14,11,700	13,07,275
Total Imperial ...	12,32,720	10,33,702	2,09,900	3,00,805	17,73,100	16,27,835
Provincial.						
Civil buildings	27,36,000	31,55,351	4,24,400	4,36,378	31,60,400	35,91,729
Communications	6,28,000	5,54,572	10,23,600	10,04,965	16,51,600	15,59,537
Miscellaneous public improvements	1,10,000	91,788	39,800	61,361	1,49,800	1,53,149
Establishments	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,03,300	10,28,129
Tools and plant	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,59,900	1,56,490
Increase in suspense balances ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,46,774
Total Provincial ...	34,74,000	38,01,711	14,87,800	15,02,704	60,25,000	67,35,808
Local Funds.						
Incorporated local funds ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17,972
Excluded	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26,340
District Road Funds	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36,62,085
Nizamut contributions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	255
GRAND TOTAL ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,20,70,295

General.

The outlay from Imperial funds (Rs. 16,27,835) is very nearly a lakh and a half of rupees less than the grant of the year, and this short outlay is entirely due to the expenditure on the large new buildings which are being erected in Calcutta having been very much less than was anticipated. The probability of a large proportion of the grant for these buildings being unspent during the year was foreseen after the rains of 1882, and a portion of it was utilized in putting a large number of the salt golahs at Sulkeah into thorough repair, and this diversion of the grants in a great measure accounts for the expenditure under the head of "Imperial other Service Repairs" (Rs. 2,75,362) exceeding the grant (Rs. 1,79,500) for the year.

The outlay from provincial funds shows a very considerable excess of Rs. 7,10,808 over the grants for the year. The heads mainly contributing to this excess are—

	Rs.
Civil buildings	4,31,329
Establishment	1,24,829
Suspense balances	2,46,774

The causes which contributed to this excess over the grant for civil buildings were, first, unexpected demands for land charges for the new civil station at Durbhunga, and for additional land taken up for the improvement of the Eden Hospital, which aggregated nearly two lakhs of rupees, and, secondly, construction of several large buildings, including the west block and octagonal section of Writers' Buildings, the central jails at Dacca and Buxar, and the new jails at Gya and Motihari, work on which proceeded with greater rapidity than was anticipated.

The excess under the head of establishment is entirely due to considerable lapses having occurred in the grants under other service heads, which are charged at a percentage on the actual outlay on works and repairs. The following table of the estimated and actual charges for establishments shows that the aggregate charges for establishments have not exceeded the provision in the budget estimates of the year:—

	Budget estimate.	Actuals.
	Rs.	Rs.
Military works	42,885	59,021
Buildings, road, and other services—		
Imperial	2,33,848	2,16,350
Provincial	9,03,389	10,28,129
Local	10,038	8,233
Irrigation works	9,22,645	8,31,991
Tuccavee	.....	4,439
State Railways	47,195	2,400
Contributions	.....	260
Total	21,60,000	21,50,823

The suspense balances, which form a considerable portion of the excess shown in the accounts for the year, comprise an increase of Rs. 39,667 in the value of stock. This is represented by the value of bricks at the Akra Factory, which have been charged to works since the close of the year; a sum of Rs. 75,000, in round numbers, for exhibition buildings, Rs. 60,000 for initial expenditure in starting the foundry and repairing the buildings at the Barrakur Iron Works, and sums aggregating a lakh under the head of Unadjusted Balances with Civil Departments.

Changes in administration.

The supervision of all public works in Calcutta was placed in the charge of a Superintendent of Works at the commencement of the year, thus giving the Superintending Engineer of the Central Circle greater opportunities of inspecting works in the mofussil divisions. The removal of the works in Calcutta from the Central Circle again necessitated a slight change in the constitution of the Central and Eastern Circles. The Darjeeling division was transferred from the former to the latter circle, and the Chittagong division added to the former. These two circles at present are made up of the following divisions:—Central Circle—Burdwan, Jessore, and Chittagong; Eastern—Dacca, Rajshahye, Julpigori, and Darjeeling.

Increased powers accorded to Superintending Engineers.

The full power of according sanction to estimates permissible under the rules of the code of regulations of the Public Works Department were conferred by the Lieutenant-Governor upon all Superintending Engineers early in 1881. The measure has proved most beneficial in facilitating the despatch of the business of the Department, and has done away in a great measure with the delay that used to take place in obtaining sanction to minor projects for works required by the civil officers of the administration.

The power now held by Superintending Engineers consists in dealing finally with the professional details of all designs and estimates up to a limit of Rs. 5,000. It is still necessary to obtain an allotment of funds from Government before work can be actually commenced, and a misconception of their powers in this respect at first led to a few financial irregularities, but since then all Superintending Engineers have exercised the powers conferred upon them with care and judgment.

Imperial Works.

Military.

Office for the Controller of Military Accounts.

The bulk of the outlay under the head of military was incurred in the erection of new offices for the Controller of Military Accounts in Koila Ghât Street, Calcutta. Little beyond the clearance of the site and the purchase of iron girders and beams had been done at the beginning of the year; but the work during the year was prosecuted with vigour, and notwithstanding the difficulties that were met with, the foundations of the building were successfully laid before the rains. The superstructure was then carried on with considerable vigour, but had to be partially stopped—first, owing to the difficulty in keeping up the supply of bricks, and, secondly, to the urgent necessity that arose for deputing some of the staff employed on the building to the erection of a bridge on the Diamond Harbour Railway. The slight delay that thus occurred, though throwing back the progress, will have no real effect on the ultimate completion of the building. The brick-work of the building was, on the return of the staff from the Diamond Harbour Railway, pushed on with the greatest vigour, and will be completed before the doors and windows are all supplied from the workshops at Seebpore, and the Engineer in charge of the work anticipates that the building will be completed and fit for occupation by May 1884.

Other Services.

Office for the Financial Department.

The most important buildings for Imperial other services which were in progress during the year were the new offices in Calcutta. The large building intended for the accommodation of the Financial Department, which is being erected on the site of the old treasury buildings, has been pushed on as rapidly as possible. The foundations were begun at the commencement of the year, and the brick-work of the second floor was well in hand at its close. The work has proceeded uninterruptedly; the arrangements for the supply of material have been most successful, and there is every probability that the building will be completed in March 1884, though perhaps after that date there may be some subsidiary work to be done, such as fixing record racks and other fittings before the building can be said to be ready.

New Central Press in Hastings' Street.

The progress in the erection of the large new building in Hastings' Street for the accommodation of the Central Press has not been so rapid as in the case of the Financial Offices. Legal difficulties with regard to the land had to be overcome before the whole site could be made over to the Engineer, and even then the proximity of other buildings rendered it necessary to exercise great caution in excavating the foundations, and made this part of the work a difficult and tedious operation. During the progress of the superstructure, again, the owners of the neighbouring premises took legal action for damages sustained by the erection of the new building, which caused further delay, and the non-delivery of certain iron columns still further retarded the work. Notwithstanding all these difficulties, the progress on the building has been satisfactory. The masonry of the second floor was well in hand at the close of the year; and if no further delay occurs in the

delivery of materials, the building should, with the exception of its fittings and subsidiary works, be very near completion in April 1884.

Opium buildings.

A new opium godown at Goolzarbagh, costing Rs. 21,467, was commenced and completed during the year, and a set of buildings, consisting of a weighing-shed, jar-godown, store-shed, and two assamis' sheds, were erected on the site of the old jail at Motihari at a cost of Rs. 31,313. The other new works in progress for the Opium Department were of minor importance.

Mint buildings.

No expenditure was incurred on the project for renewing the present roof of the silver mint, or in the alterations to the machinery, owing to the impracticability of handing over the buildings to the Engineer.

Post-offices.

New post-offices were in progress at Jessore, Comilla, Naraingunj, Bogra, Serajgunj, Kurigram, Saidpore, and Contai. Those at Commilla, Saidpore, Kurigram, and Contai have been completed, and the progress has been satisfactory on all the other buildings, except on that at Serajgunj, where work has been considerably delayed owing to a change having been made in position of the site. In addition to the new post-offices which were in progress during the year, various alterations and additions to existing buildings were carried out to meet the requirements of the postal authorities.

Telegraph buildings.

Almost the whole of the expenditure on telegraph buildings was incurred on works at Dullunda. The extension of the new instrument-shed, which was in progress in the previous year, was completed at a cost of Rs. 18,470, and the erection of a new telegraph store-office was commenced towards the close of the year, and half finished.

Government House, Calcutta.

An upper story was erected on the range of servants' quarters in Government Place, and a new façade given to the whole range of buildings, converting them into a sightly building and effecting a considerable improvement in that part of the town. The work was put in hand at the commencement of the year, and was rapidly and satisfactorily completed in a few months. Government House itself was also provided with a hot and cold water supply service, and marble slabs were substituted for the Chunar stone flagging in the semi-circular verandah.

Surveyor-General's Office.

The little that remained at the beginning of the year to finish the building in Wood Street for the accommodation of the Office of the Surveyor-General has been completed, and a few additional out-buildings, which were urgently required by the Surveyor-General, have also been erected. Proposals have been made for the erection of new buildings for the accommodation of the Mathematical Instrument and Photographic Departments of the Office, and the detailed designs and estimates for these buildings are now being prepared by the Architect to Government. Until these are sanctioned, no further expenditure is to be incurred on any buildings connected with this department.

Salt golahs at Sulkea.

There was again a very large outlay incurred on repairing the salt golahs at Sulkea. The expenditure during the last two years on these buildings has been nearly Rs. 3,60,000, and about half of the buildings in the yard have been put in thorough repair. It is roughly estimated, if funds can be provided within a reasonable time, that a further sum of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees will be required to allow of all the buildings being placed in thorough repair.

Provincial Works.

Secretariat buildings at Calcutta.

The construction of a new façade to Writers' Buildings has been completed, with the exception of four groups of *terra cotta* statues. These will not be placed in position till after the close of the International Exhibition, in which the statues are to be exhibited. The west, or Clive Street block, was also thoroughly completed, and very good progress was made in the octagonal building in the south-west corner of the range, which will contain the Chamber for the Bengal Legislative Council. This portion of the building is now finished, with the

exception of the interior decorations, which will be completed in sufficient time to permit the use of the room by the Council at the forthcoming session. All the offices of the Bengal Government, and of the heads of provincial departments, have been located in the Writers' Buildings; and the few executive offices which it is intended to locate in the buildings will be accommodated when the last block of the building abutting on Lyon's Range is completed, which, it is anticipated, will be in about a year.

Eden Sanitarium.

The construction of the Eden Sanitarium at Darjeeling, which was well in progress at the commencement of the year, was practically completed at its close, and the building has for some months been open for the reception of patients. It consists of a centre block with two wings, and is placed on a conspicuous site in the middle of the town.

New court-houses.

Good progress has been made during the year in the erection of new court-houses. The building at Motihari was finished in the previous year, with the exception of a few fittings, which have since been completed; various subsidiary buildings and works, which were not originally estimated for, have also been taken in hand, and are being rapidy pushed to completion.

Motihari.

Gya.

Notwithstanding the great difficulty that was experienced in obtaining contractors to undertake the supply of brick and other materials for the new court-house at Gya, the Engineer in charge has made most commendable progress in the erection of the building, which was partially roofed in at the close of the year and is now nearly completed.

Durbhunga.

There were similar difficulties to overcome at Durbhunga, which were less effectually mastered. The new court-house was not advanced to the same extent as that at Gya, but the progress in the work has been satisfactory, and, unless any unforeseen difficulty arises, the building should be completed before next March.

Jessore.

The progress on the new court-house at Jessore has been far from satisfactory; the result of a whole year's work has been only to raise the building up to plinth level. This, compared with the progress upon the building at Durbhunga, which was commenced at about the same time, does not reflect much credit on the arrangements of the Engineer in charge of the work. The unsatisfactory progress on the work has attracted the attention of the Chief Engineer, who has recently directed fresh arrangements to be made for the prosecution of the work, which, it is hoped, will result in greater progress being shown during the current season.

Ranchi.

The failure of the contractor who had undertaken the supply of bricks for the new court-house at Ranchi, which was referred to in last year's report, has materially affected the progress of the work. The manufacture of bricks by departmental agency had to be taken up late in the season, and building operations could not be recommenced till September 1882, and then great difficulty was experienced in obtaining sufficient skilled labour for this as well as the other buildings in progress at Ranchi and its neighbourhood. At the close of the year the building was up to roof-level, and since then the progress on the work has been more rapid.

Dacca.

The erection of a new building for the Small Cause Court at Dacca was carried on very much more quickly than was anticipated, and with the exception of a few petty items the building was completed at the close of the year.

Khoolna.

Temporary buildings for the accommodation of courts at the new civil station at Khoolna were expeditiously run up, and brick-making operations were taken in hand for the permanent buildings that will have to be erected at that place. The result of the season's manufacture was not satisfactory, the outturn being very much less than it should have been.

Mymensingh, Furreedpore, Julpigori, and Pubna.

It was proposed in 1880 to erect two new buildings for the accommodation of the Collector's and Judge's courts at Mymensingh. After considerable discussion it was finally settled, during His Honour's visit to

that station, that only one new building should be constructed for the Judge's court, and that the existing Collector's court-house should be added to and improved to suit the present requirements of that office. Brick-making was started and other materials were collected for these works, and the erection of the new Judge's court-house has been commenced, and is being vigorously pushed on. Increased accommodation for the different courts at Futreedpore has long been required, and bricks were manufactured at this station, and other materials were collected for a building to accommodate the Judge's court. The erection of the building was commenced towards the close of the year, and rapid progress is being made in its construction. No further progress has been made in the construction of a court-house for the Deputy Commissioner at Julpigori, as the work has been held in abeyance for want of funds. Little beyond the manufacture of bricks and the collection of materials has been done towards the erection of the new court-house for the Judge at Pubna. Some difficulties that have arisen with regard to the site have retarded the construction of the building. In addition to the works connected with the erection of new court-houses at the sudder stations, numerous alterations and additions were made to sub-divisional court-houses and buildings, and considerable progress has been made in the erection of moonsifs' court-houses, fourteen of which were in progress during the year.

Jails and lock-ups.

The outlay on jails and lock-ups aggregated Rs. 8,14,940, of which Rs. 2,68,470 were expended on central jails, Rs. 4,97,288 on district jails, and Rs. 54,182 upon lock-ups.

In the Buxar Central Jail the hospital and bathing platforms were completed. The additional weaving-shed and the godown were roofed in, and the brick-work of the guards and warders' quarters has been carried up to beam level. At Bhagulpore a project for supplying the jail with water from the Ganges was prepared, and the work was put in hand and completed during the year. A new store-godown and a shed over the dye-pans was also constructed. Very much more rapid progress than was anticipated was made in the conversion of the district jail at Dacca into a central jail. The enclosure walls, the hospital, and its out-houses, three bathing and one feeding platform were completed, and two sleeping wards, the solitary cells, the civil ward, and the works connected with the supply of filtered water, were well in hand at the close of the year. The only work of importance in progress in the Midnapore Central Jail is the erection of a residence for the Superintendent of the jail, which was commenced during the year, and is now approaching completion.

District Jails in Behar and Chota Nagpore.

Very satisfactory progress was made in the construction of the district jail at Gya. The four main wards were completed at the end of the year, and all the other subsidiary buildings had been well advanced, and are now rapidly approaching completion. At Durbhunga two main wards were nearly completed at the end of the year. These buildings were originally designed with three floors, but it has since been determined to erect them with two floors only. The foundations for the female and hajat wards were being laid at the close of the year, and arrangements were made for the construction of the hospital wards. As all the material for the unfinished buildings are collected at site, there is fair reason for believing that this jail will be completed during the current year. The failure in the brick supply at Ranchi, which interfered with the progress of the Deputy Commissioner's court-house, also caused a complete stoppage of the jail works during the first half of the year. Since then the work has been pushed on, and at the close of the year the brickwork of the main wards, hospital, and under-trial wards, had been carried up to beam level, and the buildings were being roofed in. All the buildings for the new jail at Chyebassa were completed, with the exception of the main ward, including the hospital and the under-trial ward. The masonry of these buildings had been run up to beam level, and they are now being roofed in. The design for the new range of buildings along the front of the jail at Purulia was slightly modified, rolled iron joists having been substituted for wooden beams. The operations during the first half of the year consisted almost entirely of brick manufacture. Satisfactory progress was made in the construction of

the buildings during the latter part of the year, and as the iron joists are at site, and there is now a plentiful supply of bricks and other materials, the buildings should be rapidly pushed to completion. The jail buildings at Motihari have, as was anticipated, been completed so far as was originally designed, but various subsidiary works, which were not included in the original designs, have had to be built. These consisted principally of verandahs to the large three-floored sleeping wards, and the further sinking of the well for the water-supply. This latter work has not been necessitated by any failure in the water-supply from the forty-feet well which had already been constructed, but was carried out on the recommendation of a Commission assembled to investigate the causes of the unusual amount of sickness among the prisoners in the new jail. The rapid progress in the completion of the Motihari jail was due to the excellent arrangements of the Executive Engineer, who made full use of free labour without interfering with jail regulations and discipline. This was effected by cutting off portions of the enclosures by temporary walls, and establishing communication with the materials stacked outside the jail by temporary openings in the jail walls. The alterations and additions to the jail at Mozufferpore have been practically completed.

District Jails in Eastern Bengal.

Alterations and improvements to the jail at Mymensingh have been in progress for the last three years. These may be divided into three classes:—(1) additions and improvements to existing buildings, (2) the construction of certain new buildings, (3) the improvement of the drainage and water-supply of the jail. The progress on all these works has been satisfactory, though their cost has somewhat exceeded the original estimates. All the works for the improvement of the jail at Furreedpore were completed during the year. The original project for the improvement of the jail at Burrisal was to construct four new wards in lieu of the four existing ones, which were in a dilapidated condition. The institution of a central jail at Dacca, however, rendered such extensive accommodation at Burrisal unnecessary, and orders were consequently issued to construct only two new wards in the jail, and this work was completed during the year. The erection of the jailor's quarters and the raising of the enclosure wall of the Bogra Jail were in progress at the close of the year, and the construction of a cook-house and day-privies is all that remains to complete the jail at this station. The new third class jails at Julpigoori and Pubna have been completed, and various alterations and additions of minor importance have been carried out in jails at other stations.

In addition to works on district jails, eighteen lock-ups were in progress during the year, and an expenditure of Rs. 54,182 were incurred on these buildings.

Seebpore College and Workshops.

A large amount of important work has been executed at the Seebpore College. Very extensive improvements have been made in the grounds surrounding the college and workshops. These consisted in forming the various tanks on the premises into a series of ornamental lakes, and in utilizing the earth so obtained in filling in the low and swampy ground, which used to contribute largely to the unhealthiness of the college. With the exception of a few sluices, this work is completed. The foundations of the new quarters for native students were commenced in October 1882, and this building and the new dining-hall had been carried up to plinth-level at the close of the year. The workshop buildings were, with the exception of the foundry (which has since been finished) all completed during the year.

Akra Brick Manufactory.

The operations at Akra were on an unusually extended scale. The reserve of bricks had all been expended in meeting the requirements of the large buildings which were being pushed on with unusual rapidity in Calcutta, and orders were accordingly issued to manufacture as large a quantity of bricks as possible. The operations of the year consisted in moulding 442 lakhs of bricks, of which 429 lakhs were loaded.

Bhuddh Gya Temple.

The operations for the preservation of the temple at Bhuddh-Gya were described in detail in last year's Report, and have been steadily progressing under the supervision of

Mr. Beglar.

Exhibition buildings.

Towards the close of the year the Department of Public Works was called upon to erect the buildings which were required for the Calcutta International Exhibition. Work was commenced in January, and before the close of the year all the sheds on the site of the old Secretariat buildings had been constructed with material taken out of the dismantled buildings; the foundations of the new annexe to the Museum in Chowringhi had also been got in, and since then the erection of this annexe and the construction of the other sheds and buildings for the Exhibition on the Maidan have been pushed on with the greatest vigour.

Burrakur iron works.

The iron works at Burrakur were purchased from the Bengal Iron Works Company towards the close of the year and placed under the control of the Public Works Department. The various buildings on the property have been thoroughly repaired, and the foundry attached to the works has been utilized in casting sleepers for the State Railways in Bengal. This operation resulted in a profit of about Rs. 16,000, which is being expended in lighting one of the blast-furnaces, thus enabling the works to provide its own iron for foundry purposes.

The following table shows the outlay that has been incurred on account of each department of the provincial administration :—

SUB-HEADS.	Original works.	Repairs.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land revenue	4,00,230	85,410	4,85,640
Excise	505	6,836	7,341
Residence for local Government	1,554	25,581	27,135
Secretariat office	3,72,567	12,889	3,85,456
Board of Revenue	.....	6,895	6,895
Stamps and stationery	418	2,538	2,956
Customs	3,119	14,564	17,683
Monuments and antiquities	46,573	644	47,217
Museum	13,076	1,205	14,281
High Court	5,539	4,573	10,112
Small Cause Court	48,304	1,669	49,973
District courts	3,34,385	46,167	3,80,552
Churches	9,212	18,811	28,023
Cemeteries	9,488	7,154	16,642
Lord Bishop's palace	.....	750	750
Central jail	2,63,470	6,898	2,70,368
District jail	4,97,288	59,867	5,57,155
Lock-ups	54,182	11,035	65,217
Police	1,09,283	18,280	1,27,563
Government colleges	2,68,857	18,559	2,87,416
Ditto schools	59,981	35,611	95,592
Hospitals and dispensaries	43,5,734	19,925	4,55,659
Medical colleges and schools	1,252	3,571	4,823
Lock hospitals	.....	1,914	1,914
Lunatic asylums	2,048	5,320	7,368
Registration	14,795	717	15,512
Miscellaneous	1,33,330	12,554	1,45,884
Public works	70,161	6,441	76,602
Total ...	31,55,351	4,36,378	35,91,729

PROVINCIAL ROADS.

Bridges on the Grand Trunk Road.

The substitution of girders for the old suspension bridges at Singarea, Noonia, and Tumluk on the Grand Trunk Road in the Burdwan district was fully completed, and the bridges were thrown open for traffic shortly after the rains of 1882. The renewal of the Satgong bridge in the Hooghly district, however, made little or no progress. The girders for the bridge are being made up in the Seebpore Workshops, and it is expected that they will be ready in time to allow of the reopening of the bridge for traffic before the close of the year.

Roads in Chota Nagpore.

The metalling and improvement of the roads from Hazaribagh to Ranchi, and from Purulia to Ranchi, which were originally sanctioned in 1874, have been pushed on with

greater vigour than in previous years. On the former road the metalling has been completed on all the miles except the ninth, which is being realigned to improve the gradients. Very great difficulty has been experienced in constructing the Jumar bridge on this road. The bed of the river is of fine sand, full of water, and rocky at 10 to 12 feet below the surface; the cofferdam round pier No. 3 was successfully erected and the pier founded on rock; the piling was then carried right across the river, and the centre pier was partially founded when an accident to the pumping engine brought the work to a standstill. The bridge is now, however, making rapid progress towards completion. On the Ranchi and Purulia road the whole of the earthwork has been completed, the Depti, Jorcale, Sepier, and Doma bridges have been erected, and a causeway across the Hamwady river nearly finished. All the culverts on the first section of the road have been completed, and on the second section 20 culverts were finished and 14 put in hand during the year.

Teesta, Sivoke, and Silligoori Road.

The construction of the unfinished part of the road from the Teesta bridge to Silligoori was continued during the year, the whole of the earthwork has been completed, metal has been spread over ten miles, and that required for the remainder is being collected as rapidly as possible. All the bridges and culverts have been completed except the large timber bridge over the Sivoke river, which is now in hand.

Feeder, Roads.

The construction of feeder roads to the Northern Bengal State Railway was originally left to the road-cess committees of the districts through which the railway runs, but owing to the slow progress in opening out new roads by their agency the work has been taken up by the Public Works Department. In the Julpigori division surveys have been made for 56 miles of road. The existing road from Shikarpore to Bhojaunpore is being widened, improved, and bridged at an estimated cost of Rs. 28,513; all the earthwork was completed, and most of the bridging was finished; the materials for the unfinished bridges were collected and work was being vigorously pushed on at the close of the year. A new road was commenced from Nilphamari to Joygunj, and has been rapidly pushed on to completion. The road from Chillahati and Saldangah was also taken in hand to be widened, improved, and bridged, and with the exception of a few culverts and some turfing, which had to be postponed till the rains, was completed within the year. A short road from Nilphamari to Sagamacha was commenced and practically completed in the year. The road from Durwani to Khansama Bunder has been widened, improved, and bridged, and good progress has been made in the construction of a road from Habra to Parbuttipore. In addition to these roads, which serve the northern portion of the line, five roads were under construction in the Rajshahye Division, which when completed will serve the southern portion of the line; and though the progress on these has not been so rapid as in the Julpigori division, they are well in hand, and should be completed during the current year. The total expenditure of the year on feeder roads for the Northern Bengal State Railway from Provincial Funds has been Rs. 1,12,017.

District Roads.

The outlay by district road committees on public works was as follows:—

	Rs.
Original works	13,37,825
Repairs	17,45,582
Establishment	5,45,504
Tools and plant	30,091
Toll and ferry establishments	3,083
Total ...	36,62,085

The following table exhibits the expenditure incurred by each committee :—

Districts.	Rs.	Districts.	Rs.
Burdwan	1,26,780	Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	11,016
Bankoora	35,406	Patna	2,07,785
Beerbhoom	51,764	Gya	2,09,464
Moorshedabad ...	1,39,383	Shahabad	1,38,281
Hooghly and Howrah ...	91,917	Mozufferpore	1,08,801
24-Pergunnahs ...	1,21,547	Durbhunga	1,50,579
Nuddea	1,34,457	Sarun	1,37,417
Jessore	83,966	Chumparun	89,558
Khulna	2,530	Monghyr	1,63,287
Moorshedabad ...	64,182	Bhagulpore	1,08,144
Dinagepore	97,978	Purneah	83,370
Rajshahye	78,806	Maldah	29,593
Rungpore	92,436	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	34,792
Bogra	68,525	Cuttack	41,499
Pubna	42,352	Pooree	28,196
Darjeeling	16,135	Balasore	19,415
Julpigori	45,459	Hazaribagh	43,148
Dacca	79,116	Lohardugga	48,043
Furreedpore	45,515	Singbhoom	2,502
Backergunge	1,04,230	Manbhoom	21,960
Mymensingh	1,48,305		
Chittagong	1,02,699		
Noakholly	1,31,445	Total ...	36,62,085
Tipperah	80,302		

The operations of road-cess committees consist for the most part in maintaining the roads under their charge in an efficient condition and improving village roads. Very few of the committees have sufficient funds at their disposal for the execution of new works of any great importance. The following brief summary shows the more important works that have been carried out during the year.

Burdwan Division.

The Burdwan committee completed the works on the Burdwan and Koormoon road, and also the road from Koolty to Borera, and made satisfactory progress on the road from Satgachi to Montessur. The metalling of seven miles of the road from Panighur railway-station to the Bishenpore road has been completed by the Bankoora committee, who have also made a survey for a new line of road from Taldangra to Simlapal. The waterway of the various roads in the district seem to have received the special attention of the Beerbhoom committee, who have erected a large number of additional culverts and increased the waterway of some bridges. The Hooghly committee have erected an iron girder bridge over the Mohiary khall on the road from Makurda to Mohiary. In Midnapore a new road from Mohunpore to Kudduckpore has been constructed, and a further portion of the Belda-Contai road has been metalled, and a considerable expenditure has been incurred in erecting culverts and improving river crossings on other roads.

Presidency Division.

The works in connection with the deepening of the khall along the Diamond Harbour road and the re-excavation of the Dhappa khall have nearly been completed by the 24-Pergunnahs committee. The Nuddea committee have by the aid of grants from Government completed the road from Khoksa Bazaar to the railway-station, and erected bridges and culverts on the road from Bongong to Chogda. No work of importance has been in progress in Jessore, Moorshedabad, or Khulna.

Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division.

The Rajshahye committee have made further improvements in the road from Rampore Beauleah to Nattore, and have nearly completed the metalling of the road from Beauleah to Nowhatta. They also erected a new bridge on the Pubna road, and have made good progress in the construction of a feeder road from Hapania to Nowgong leading to the Sultanpore station on the Northern Bengal State Railway. The principal work in progress in Pubna was the construction of the road from Pubna to the Sara station of the Northern Bengal State Railway, on which fair progress was made in getting in the foundations of bridges. The Bogra committee completed the bridging of the road from Bogra to Sultanpore and the short feeder road from Hillee to the Patiram railway-station. A large

amount of bridging was executed by the Julpigori committee on the Alipore road, and considerable improvements were being carried out on the roads from Boda to Domur and Damaim to Phoolbari Ghât.

Chittagong Division.

The Chittagong committee are reopening the old road to Arracan, and have reconstructed portions of the road that had been obliterated by successive floods, and are also manufacturing bricks and collecting materials for the bridges they propose erecting on this road. The Noakholly committee are effecting great improvements in the communications of the district, by substituting substantial iron bridges and drain pipes for the temporary wooden structures that previously existed. The Tipperah committee have nearly completed the road from Kashva to Agartollah, and have erected a large number of new bridges throughout the district.

Patna Division.

The Patna committee have made considerable progress in metalling the Bucktearpore-Behar, the Dinapore-Monair, the Belun-Gerick, and the Sadikpore-Khogoul roads. The principal works in progress in the Gya district were the construction of a new road from the Bela railway-station to the Patna branch road and the erection of a girder bridge over the Hingna nullah on the Bela and Khiderserai road, both of which were completed. The committee contemplate raising and metalling the road from Gya to Nowadah at a cost of about a lakh of rupees, and have made considerable progress in the collection of material for this project.

The realignment of the Doomraon and Ballighat road, which was commenced in the previous year, has been completed by the Shahabad committee, who also have made very considerable progress in metalling the roads from Arrah to Tendoni, and from Tendoni to Doomraon. The Sarun committee have effected various improvements to existing roads, in the erection of bridges, and metalling portions of different roads. The most important work in progress in Chumparun is the erection of a wooden bridge of 28 spans of 25 feet each over the Sikrahna river at Segowlie, towards which the Provincial Government gave a grant-in-aid of Rs. 54,845. The piles had all been driven and the superstructure was well in hand at the close of the year. The operations of the Mozufferpore committee during the year were almost entirely confined to maintaining and improving existing roads. The principal work in progress in Durbhunga was the erection of 23 bridges on the Pipraghat-Tilguja road. Of these 11 have been completed and the remainder are well in hand. The committee are also remodelling and improving 14 roads, and have metalled 13 miles of roads.

Bhagulpore Division.

The Monghyr committee have, with the exception of one bridge, completed the bridging of the main roads in the south of the district, and are having estimates prepared for the construction of roads in the northern portion of the district, where means of communication are much required. The Bhagulpore committee have completed the metalling of the road from Bhagulpore into the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and have received a grant-in-aid from Provincial Funds for the improvement of the road, which is now being effected. They have also completed the bridging of the feeder roads from Peerpointi railway-station to the bazaar and to Barahat. The Purnia committee devoted almost all the funds they had available for original works to the improvement of bridges on existing roads.

The attention of the road-cess committee at Maldah has been directed more to the improvement of water communication in the district than to the construction of roads, and in the Sonthal Pergunnahs a new line of road from Herampore to the Bijapore railway-station has been set out.

Chota Nagpore.

The Hazaribagh committee have made satisfactory progress in constructing culverts on the Girhidi-Khurakdiha and Hazaribagh-Chuttra roads. The three large bridges at Sosai, Murma, and Pattu in the Lohardugga district, which have been under construction for nearly two years, have been completed. No works of importance were in progress in Singbhoom and Manbhoom.

Floods, storms, and accidents.

With the exception of the Salindi in Orissa, none of the rivers rose to any unusual height during the flood season of 1882. The Salindi rose on the 15th October to within a

foot of the highest recorded flood, and the flood-waters passing over the right bank of the river undermined and destroyed a small culvert in the 63rd mile of the Orissa Trunk Road and caused a breach. The ruined culvert has not been rebuilt, but a short causeway has been constructed at a point a little nearer to the river bank and beyond the line of the protective embankment of the adjacent branch canal, which will provide an escape for the spill water in future floods. A heavy gale occurred on the evening of the 21st April 1882 at Koorigram, in the Rungpore district, which damaged the public buildings. The sub-divisional residence at Patuakhally and the school-houses at Chapra were both accidentally burnt down in the month of May; the police buildings and inspection bungalow at Ragoonathpore, in the Purulia district, were also destroyed by fire, and a wooden bridge on the Ganges and Darjeeling road was injured by the same cause. The only accident to record is the falling in of a portion of the verandah of the Collector's court-house at Balasore, which occurred during the night after very heavy rain in October. The building is an old one, and the accident is reported to be due to defects in construction.

Establishment.

The total establishment charges of the year for all public works was nearly 20·5 per cent. on the outlay on works and repairs. The permanent establishment was, as in previous years, supplemented by a temporary staff of Engineers and subordinates, mainly composed of passed students from the Civil Engineering College at Seebpore, who are increasing in efficiency every year, and among whom there are now several Engineers fully qualified to take up the independent charge of districts.

Provincial Railways.

THE development of Provincial Railways during the year under review has been fairly satisfactory, there having been at the end of the year, excluding the East Indian and Eastern Bengal Railways, 645 miles open for traffic, with a capital outlay of Rs. 5,00,08,000* as compared with 525 miles and outlay of Rs. 4,05,00,000 at the end of 1881-82, and 55 miles with outlay of Rs. 76,90,000 in 1874.

In addition to the above, 410† miles were under construction, 1,175 miles had been surveyed or were under survey, and 234 miles projected.

The financial results of the working of State lines compare as follows with those of the two previous years :—

YEAR.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Net earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1880-81	29,58,000	16,76,000	12,82,000
1881-82	33,90,000	19,76,000	14,14,000
1882-83	37,68,000	20,53,000	17,15,000

The financial responsibility accepted by the Bengal Government amounted to Rs. 18,02,000: there was thus a net loss to the province of Rs. 87,000, principally due to the unproductive capital expended on the various State railway extensions not yet open for traffic.

The following list shows the railways in Bengal open, under construction, under survey, or projected on the 31st March 1883 :—

Opened for Traffic.

I. The Northern Bengal State Railway.
II. The Kaunia-Dharlla and Mogul-Hat Light State Railway.
III. The Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway.
IV. The Tirhoot State Railway, including Eastern extension from Durbhunga to Jhinjharpur, Western extension from Mozufferpur as far as Motihari, and Mokameh branch.
V. The Patna and Gya State Railway.
VI. The Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway, including extension as far as Mugra Hat.
VII. The Nalhati State Railway.
VIII. The Bengal Central Railway from Ranaghat to Bongong.
IX. The Deoghur Railway.

Under Construction.

I. The Northern Bengal State Railway extension to Dinagepore.
II. The Tirhoot State Railway Western extension from Motihari to Bettiah, and Hajipur extension.
III. The Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway extension from Mugra Hat to Diamond Harbour.
IV. The Bengal Central Railway from Bongong to Khulna, from Dum-Dum to Bongong, and from Ranaghat to Bhugwangola.
V. The Deoghur Railway, Rohini branch.

* Does not include capital outlay on the Bengal-Central and Deoghur Railways, but includes outlay on the unopened portions of the State railways under construction, and outlay on the Patna-Gya State Railway up to the end of 1882 only.

† Includes 82 miles of the Bengal and North-Western Railway.

VI. The Bengal and North-Western Railway.
VII. The Dacca and Mymensing State Railway.
VIII. The Tarakessur Railway.

Surveyed or under Survey.

I. The Northern Bengal State Railway extension from Kaunia to Dhubri, and extension from Dinagepur to Munihari, with branch to Purneah and the Kosi.
II. The Tirhoot State Railway extension to Sitamurhi, and extension from Jhinjharpur to Bullooa on the Kosi.
III. The Bengal and Nagpore Railway.
IV. The Benares-Cuttack Railway.
V. The Chittagong and Chandpur Railway, with branch to Comillah in connection with survey into Cachar and Assam.

Projected.

I. The Cuttack and Puri Railway.
II. The Palamow-Daltongunge and Baroon Railway.
III. The Kissengunge-Kotchandpur Railway.
IV. The Burdwan-Cutwa Railway.
V. The Bhagulpur-Bowsi Railway.
VI. The Behar Railway.
VII. The Khairabad Branch Railway.

The working of each line open for traffic during the year is separately noticed below, and some account is given of the various other lines under construction or survey, or as yet only projected. Statistical details of the working of all the existing railways will be found in Appendix. C.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

The result of the year's working shows a further improvement on the results of all previous years, the gross earnings having amounted to Rs. 22,79,189, with an expenditure of Rs. 10,75,387, or 47·18 per cent. of the gross amount earned. The capital expenditure to the 31st March 1883 was Rs. 2,09,63,588, the interest on which at 4 per cent. amounts to Rs. 8,38,367, so that the earnings give a net surplus of Rs. 3,65,435.

The following table gives the financial results of working since the opening of the railway :—

YEAR.	Miles open.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Percentage of expenditure to gross earnings.	FINANCIAL RESULTS	
					Net earnings.	Percentage on capital outlay.
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
1878 ...	203	8,87,471	6,30,642	71	2,56,829	1·52
1879 ...	237*	12,52,311	11,51,317	92	1,00,944	0·53
1880-81 ...	244*	17,03,253	9,25,189	54	7,78,064	3·69
1881-82 ...	246*	19,28,680	962,181	49	9,66,499	4·61
1882-83 ...	243*	22,79,189	10,75,387	47	12,03,802	5·74

* Includes 13 miles Broad guage, worked by the Eastern Bengal Railway.

The above figures show a steady and satisfactory improvement in the percentage on capital outlay, and the gradual reduction of the percentage of working expenses to gross earnings speaks highly for the management of the line by its officers. It is not, however, anticipated that in the immediate future the working expenses will be kept so low as at present, for the rapid decay of the creosoted pine sleepers, originally laid, will necessitate very heavy renewals during the next two years.

The extension of the feeder-road system would materially increase the traffic on this line, and it is hoped that these works will be pushed forward vigorously in the future.

The traffic returns, which are compiled for the calendar year, show that 684,624 passengers have been carried during 1882 as compared with 686,243

in 1881, whilst the total receipts from coaching traffic have amounted to Rs. 5,70,693, against Rs. 5,36,915 in 1881. The want of improvement in the passenger traffic is not satisfactory; but recent additions to the train service for local traffic, and reduction in rates, will, it is hoped, produce better results in the future. The receipts from goods traffic amounted to Rs. 12,39,266, as compared with Rs. 10,30,935 in 1881.

The steam-boat earnings and sundries (including telegraph receipts) amounted to Rs. 2,32,764 and Rs. 1,03,187, against Rs. 1,92,709 and Rs. 83,331 respectively in 1881. The total receipts were thus Rs. 21,45,910, against Rs. 18,43,890, or an increase of Rs. 3,02,020. The working expenses were Rs. 10,52,357, against Rs. 9,44,574 for the previous year, and the net profits therefore were Rs. 10,93,553 as compared with Rs. 8,99,317.

The capital expenditure during the year was Rs. 1,37,988; but owing to a suspense credit of Rs. 1,68,345, and to sale of stores, &c., the capital account was reduced by Rs. 30,347, the net capital expenditure to the end of the year amounting to Rs. 2,09,26,407, inclusive of Rs. 4,09,227 in suspense, as compared with Rs. 2,09,56,754 inclusive of Rs. 5,77,572 in suspense at the end of 1881.

No important works were carried out: some minor permanent buildings were however built at stations, and 3,29,000 cubic feet of ballast were spread on the line. The extension from Saraghat to Ruppur had to be abandoned on account of the erosion of the river-bank during the flood season, and the old ghât of 1881 was again utilised.

There were no very serious accidents or collisions during the year. In the three cases which occurred at stations, no injury resulted to persons. The staff employed on the railway consisted of 71 Europeans and Eurasians and 2,051 natives.

Branch to Dinagepur.

A branch railway, 19 miles in length, is being constructed with provincial funds from the Parbatipur station of the Northern Bengal State Railway to Dinagepur. During the year the rails were laid for a distance of about 5½ miles, the remainder of the line being nearly ready for the permanent-way, with the exception of the two large bridges over the Atrai river.

The capital expenditure up to the 31st March 1883 amounted to Rs. 6,88,623, the outlay during the year under review having been Rs. 4,85,790.

Extension to the Ganges and Kosi rivers.

It is proposed to extend this branch to Purneah with a further extension to the Kosi river to join an extension of the Tirhoot State Railway to the same river. The route between Dinagepur and Purneah having been decided upon, orders were issued for the location of the line *viâ* Raigunge, Barsoi, and Saifgunge, with a branch to Munihari, on the bank of the Ganges, opposite the Sahibgunge station of the East Indian Railway. The survey party employed on the work was very small, and during the year under review some 53 miles only were located.

Kaunia-Dharlla and Mogul Hat Light Railway.

An account of the journey between Kaunia and Dhubri showing the condition of affairs when the rivers are high was given in the last Administration Report. When the rivers are low the journey is much more difficult and trying, as in addition to the breaks caused by the Teesta and Dharlla rivers (to cross the former of which four changes have to be made), the traveller has to traverse the interval between the Dharlla and Brahmaputra rivers at Jatrapur, first by a slow and tedious ride of three miles in a *tonga* drawn by bullocks, and then for two miles by the trolly line mentioned in the last Report. It is proposed to do away with the breaks at the Teesta and Dharlla rivers by constructing temporary bridges, thus enabling the train to be run through to the ghat on the Brahmaputra, or to reduce the number of changes by improving the ferry services over the two rivers. From Dhubri to Dibrugarh, Messrs. Macneill and Co., who have contracted to establish a daily service, engage to accomplish the voyage regularly in four days; and it is hoped that by these means the great delays and inconveniences which have hitherto existed in the transport of passengers and goods between Bengal and Assam will be minimised until the Rungpore branch of the Northern Bengal State Railway has been extended to Dhubri.

The capital outlay to the 31st March 1883 was Rs. 8,56,122, the expenditure during the year under review having been 23,640. The net earnings were Rs. 12,574, or a loss of Rs. 21,198 on the interest at 4 per cent. payable on the capital outlay.

The results of the working since the line was opened for public traffic are as follows:—

Year.	Miles open.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Percentage of expenditure to earnings.	Financial Results.	
					Net earnings.	Percentage on capital outlay.
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
1881-82	34	73,761	70,068	95	3,693	·44
1882-83	34	1,07,798	95,224	88	12,574	1·47

The capital expenditure (excluding suspense) to the end of 1882 was Rs. 8,41,170, against Rs. 7,92,725 expended to the close of the previous year.

The gross earnings for the calendar year amounted to Rs. 97,688, the expenditure being Rs. 92,448. The net profits therefore were Rs. 5,240, giving a return of 0·62 per cent. on the capital outlay, against 0·25 per cent. for the last five months of 1881. The comparatively high expenditure was due to the difficulties experienced in maintaining the ferry service of the Dharlla and Brahmaputra rivers, as in the former river the channel to Jatrapur closed early in November. A new route *viâ* Bangwah was tried, but was retained up to the 20th of the same month only, as the water over the bar at the mouth of the river failed. Light draught country boats were then used *viâ* the old channel, but owing to its silting up this mode of transit had to be abandoned on the 20th January 1883. In the Brahmaputra the silting up at the end of November of the channel through which the steamer plies between Jatrapur and Dhubri also gave considerable trouble, and threatened at one time a temporary suspension of through traffic. This difficulty had to be met by an extension of the Jatrapur trolly line to the steamer landing ghat, a distance of nearly a mile.

Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway.

This line was open for traffic throughout the year, with the exception of short periods during the rains, when the through traffic was temporarily stopped by slips at various portions of the road. In connection with the improvement of gradients, three loops and four reversing stations were in progress during the year under review. Of these, one of the former and three of the latter were opened for traffic, and the remainder are approaching completion. The original capital of the line was Rs. 14,00,000. This amount was, however, found to be insufficient to admit of the curves being improved and gradients being reduced to a ruling gradient of 1 in 28. Accordingly powers were afterwards obtained to raise a further sum of Rs. 3,50,000 by shares and Rs. 8,00,000 by debentures.

The total capital outlay to the 31st December 1883 amounted to Rs. 23,56,112, or an average cost per mile of Rs. 46,229, the expenditure during the year having been Rs. 5,28,315.

The receipts for the year were considerably over the amount (2 lakhs) guaranteed by Government, the financial results of the working having been as follows:—

Year.	Miles open.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Percentage of expenditure to gross earnings.	Financial Results.	
					Net earnings.	Percentage on capital outlay.
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
1881-82*	48½	2,96,530	1,90,201	64	1,06,329	5·38
1882-83*	50	3,76,845	2,45,618	65	1,31,227	5·34

* *Figures approximate only, as the accounts of the railway are closed half-yearly, up to the 30th June and the 31st December.*

There were only two serious accidents during the year: in one case a child was killed and two men were injured by two trucks breaking loose and leaving the line, and in the other, two coolies were killed and two injured by a land-slip. No natives are employed as drivers; the firemen and brakesmen are, however, all natives. The station-masters are also natives, with the single exception of the station-master at Darjeeling. Both European and native guards are employed. The superintendence of the construction and working of the railway is principally in the hands of Europeans, the labour employed being local, with the exception of clerks and skilled native mechanics, who are obtained from the plains. Six engines, 13 passenger, and 41 goods vehicles have been added to the rolling-stock during 1882. The engines are more powerful than those previously in use, as they weigh 12 tons and draw a load of 20 tons uphill at a speed of seven miles an hour as compared with the smaller engines weighing 10 tons, which are capable of drawing a load of 10 tons only uphill at the same speed. All vehicles are fitted with powerful brakes.

TIRHOOT STATE RAILWAY.

The results of the working of the Tirhoot State Railway since 1876 have been as follows:—

YEAR.	Miles open.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Percentage of expenses to earnings.	FINANCIAL RESULTS.	
					Net earnings.	Percentage on capital outlay.
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
1876	46	1,79,414	1,23,196	68	56,218	2·41
1877	76	2,83,922	1,93,620	68	90,302	2·03
1878	82	4,41,308	3,32,500	75	1,08,808	2·23
1879	82	4,58,733	3,50,914	76	1,07,819	2·16
1880-81	82	5,43,380	3,15,512	58	2,27,868	3·84
1881-82	85	6,12,151	3,51,547	58	2,60,604	4·65
1882-83	166	6,85,155	4,50,998	66	2,34,157	1·98

The year under review, as regards percentage of expenses to earnings and percentage on capital outlay, has not been a prosperous one, but the increase in the former is accounted for by the working of the Patna and Gya Railway having been handed over to the East Indian Railway, thus increasing the charges for direction and superintendence on the Tirhoot State Railway, to the trouble experienced with the *dearah* line to Barh Ghat, and to the extra train service and running staff required for the extensions. The decrease in the latter is explained by the heavy capital outlay on the Eastern and Western extensions and the Mokameh Branch, the whole or portions of which were opened for traffic late in the year. The total capital outlay on the line, including the Hajipur branch, the Eastern and Western extensions, and the Mokameh branch, up to the 31st March 1883 has amounted to Rs. 1,18,72,963. The interest payable by the Bengal Government on the funds supplied by the Imperial Government amounts to Rs. 4,11,085, the figures for the financial year thus showing a net loss to the local Government of Rs. 1,76,928. The returns for the calendar year show an increase of Rs. 75,767 over those of 1881, as follows:—

Description.	1881.	1882.
	Rs.	Rs.
Passenger traffic	2,30,215	2,60,608
Goods "	2,40,874	2,97,688
Steam boat	97,267	85,034
Miscellaneous	15,899	16,692
Total ...	5,84,255	6,60,022

The working expenses increased from Rs. 3,48,055 in 1881 to Rs. 4,05,975 in 1882: the net profits for 1882 were therefore Rs. 2,54,047, as compared with Rs. 2,36,200 for the previous year. The coaching traffic showed a fair improvement consequent on the opening of the extensions, and in goods the same cause brought about a satisfactory increase, more especially in seeds, hides, food-grains, and pulse; the only decrease in the principal commodities carried being in indigo.

The capital outlay during 1882 amounted to Rs. 35,89,961 (inclusive of suspense), which may be divided into three main accounts as follows:—Original line (—) Rs. 4,79,394, Mokameh branch Rs. 6,31,466, Eastern and Western extensions Rs. 34,37,889. The principal items of expenditure on the original line were on account of works at the junction station at Somastipur, including the Institute, platform, and over-bridge, waiting-sheds, carriage-inspection pit, new carriage-shed, &c.

Mokameh branch.

The difficulties experienced wtih the *dearah* line to Barh Ghat necessitated the removal of the ferry to Semuria, opposite Mokameh, where a better crossing of the Ganges was obtained. The work was completed in November 1882 and inspected and passed by the Consulting Engineer in January last; but owing to the inability of the East Indian Railway to complete the ghat line on the Mokameh side of the river, the line was not finally opened till the 1st May 1883. This branch, which now forms part of the main line, leaves the original line three miles north of Dulsing Sarai station and thence proceeds to Semuria, nearly opposite Mokameh Ghat, and 25 miles lower down the river than Barh Ghat; its length is 24 miles. The capital expended to the end of the year under review amounted to Rs. 8,76,246, the mileage cost being Rs. 36,510, excluding the credits to be derived from the permanent-way materials, &c., of the Dulsing Sarai-Bazitpur section, which will amount to about two lakhs of rupees.

Western extension.

It was expected that this extension, which runs from Mozufferpur to Bettiah, a distance of 76½ miles, would have been completed before the end of the year under review, but owing to the failure of the contractors to fulfil their contract, a portion only up to Motihari, a distance of 49½ miles, was completed and opened for public traffic on the 1st February 1883. The second section, from Motichari to Bettiah, 27 miles, is so far complete that it will probably be ready for opening by the 1st November next.

Eastern extension.

The works on this extension were carried on departmentally after the failure of the contractors, and were completed within the estimated period, and the line was opened to public traffic on the 1st February 1883. Its length from Durbhunga to Jhiharpur is 24 miles, the expenditure to the end of March having been Rs. 13,13,865, against an estimate of Rs. 15,80,353.

Extension to the Kosi river.

The location of the further extension of this line to Balloea ghat on the Kosi river was completed in February 1883, but it is probable that a considerable portion of the location will require realignment, as subsequent enquiry has established the fact that Pertabgunge is likely to prove a better terminus than Balloea.

This extension, as well as that of the Northern Bengal State Railway from Dinagepur to Munihari and the Kosi river, now comprise the Northern Bengal and Tirhoot State Railway extensions, and forms part of the scheme for a through railway between Sonepur and Dhubri, to provide communication between Assam and Northern India, the carrying out of which has been strongly recommended to the Secretary of State by the Government of India.

Mozufferpur-Hajipur branch.

The orders of the Secretary of State for the construction of this branch at an estimated cost of 22 lakhs of rupees in round numbers were received late in the year; the works were immediately put in hand, and with the rapid progress now being made it is expected that the line will be completed by the end of 1883-84. The distance between Mozufferpur and Hajipur is 34 miles, and for the present a temporary station only will be erected at the latter place, as it is proposed to construct a link connecting Hajipur and Sonepur on the Patna-Baraitch Railway, which, inclusive of the bridge across the Gunduck river, has been estimated to cost Rs. 14,24,114, and forms part of the through scheme between Sonepur and Dhubri.

The question of constructing this link, and of the most suitable design for the Gunduck bridge, is still under consideration, but it is hoped that the work will be put in hand after the preparation and sanction of the final estimate and working drawings.

Sitamurhi branch.

Orders were given for the carrying out of two lines of survey for this branch, as it was a question for consideration whether the railway should start from Durbhunga or Mozufferpur. Operations were accordingly commenced in March 1883, and have since been completed.

The route from Durbhunga is 42 miles in length against 32 miles from Kanti on the Bettiah extension (eight miles west of Mozufferpur), but the former is less subject to floods than the latter, and thus less waterway will be required; there are also fewer engineering difficulties to contend with, whilst the prospects of traffic appear to be more favourable. It would therefore seem that the Durbhunga route is the better of the two, but the matter has been referred to the civil authorities, with the object more especially of ascertaining the ultimate destination of the trade in rice which will determine the best direction for the railway. The line *viâ* Durbhunga is estimated to cost Rs. 26,36,942, and that *viâ* Kanti Rs. 27,68,683.

PATNA AND GYA STATE RAILWAY.

The financial results of the working of this railway from 1879 up to the 31st December 1882, the date on which the working was taken over by the East Indian Railway, are as follows:—

YEAR.*	Miles open.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Percentage of expenditure to earnings.	FINANCIAL RESULTS. Net earnings.	Percentage on capital outlay.
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
1877	57	2,30,510	1,28,723	56	1,01,787	3·58
1879	57	4,98,282	2,75,627	55	2,22,655	6·22
1880-81	57	5,48,193	3,42,410	63	2,05,783	5·34
1881-82	57	3,82,798	2,58,816	68	1,23,982	3·21
1882						

The figures for the year under review are [illegible] nine months only, *i.e.*, from the 1st April to the 31st December 1882.

To the close of the calendar year the total capital [illegible] amounted to Rs. 38,58,296, the expenditure during the year on the line Rs. 2,93,341, principally on the completion of the fencing and ballasting.

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

The following are the results of the working since the railway was surrendered to Government in 1869:—

YEAR.	Miles open.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Percentage of expenditure to earnings.	FINANCIAL RESULTS. Net earnings.	Percentage on capital outlay.
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
1869	28	80,786	1,17,579	173	—36,793	
1870	28	98,844	1,03,670	105	—4,826	
1871	28	79,308	72,027	91	7,281	
1872	28	58,711	54,057	92	4,654	
1873	28	1,02,072	1,04,687	103	—2,615	—0·04
1874	28	99,489	77,945	78	21,544	0·29
1875	28	1,03,660	83,429	80	20,231	0·29
1876	28	98,343	1,06,824	109	—8,481	—0·12
1877	28	1,18,487	96,847	82	21,640	0·31
1878	28	1,25,694	94,372	75	31,322	0·45
1879-80	28	1,34,087	89,088	66	44,999	0·68
1880-81	28	1,46,673	90,216	62	56,457	0·83
1881-82	28	1,60,395	1,95,466	122	—35,051	—0·51
1882-83	43	2,38,871	1,23,078	51	1,15,793	1·70*

* Capital outlay on Diamond Harbour extension not included in capital outlay on which percentage is calculated.

The gross earnings for the year under review show a very large increase over those of any previous year, but this is due to a certain extent to the opening for public traffic of the Diamond Harbour extension from Sonarpur to Mugra Hat, a distance of 15 miles, having brought about a large increase

in the passenger traffic. The low percentage of expenditure to earnings is also partly due to the portion of the extension opened having been maintained by the contractors during the year.

There was no capital expenditure on the main line during the year under review, a net credit of Rs. 43,359 having been obtained, of which Rs. 6,065 represents a reduction of suspense, and Rs. 35,794 the value of English stores, principally for the Diamond Harbour extension. The total capital outlay to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 67,80,457, the interest on capital being Rs. 2,71,369.

For the calendar year 1882 the receipts were—coaching, Rs. 98,878, against Rs. 83,283 in 1881; goods, Rs. 50,943, against Rs. 39,404; and miscellaneous, Rs. 60,258, against Rs. 29,825. The increase in both goods and coaching traffic was principally due to the opening of the extension to Mugra Hat, while the large increase in miscellaneous receipts was on account of hire of rolling-stock lent to the contractors for the construction of the Diamond Harbour extension. The total receipts thus rose from Rs. 1,52,512 to Rs. 2,10,079, whilst the expenditure rose from Rs. 1,01,307 to Rs. 2,04,652, an abnormal amount, owing to the inclusion of Rs. 95,029, the cost of four new higher class engines charged against revenue early in 1882.

The locomotive and traffic staff on the line are all natives, with the single exception of a European Locomotive Foreman.

Diamond Harbour extension.

The progress on the Diamond Harbour extension of the Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway was not altogether satisfactory, as the first section (five miles) to Barripur was not opened for traffic till the 10th June 1882, and the remainder (10 miles) of the length from Sonarpur to Mugra Hat, which was being carried on by contract, was not opened till the 18th December 1882. The section from Mugra Hat to Diamond Harbour (13 miles), under construction departmentally, was opened on the 1st May 1883. The sanctioned estimate for this extension, which is being carried out from provincial funds, is Rs. 21,74,926, but to finally complete the work it is now estimated that the expenditure will amount to Rs. 25,53,404. The expenditure to the 31st March was Rs. 22,37,327, of which Rs. 11,82,093 were expended during the year under review, against a budget grant of Rs. 10,92,000.

The opening of this extension has already brought a large increase to the traffic of the Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway, more particularly in coaching, and the increased earnings will doubtless greatly improve the finances of the whole railway.

Nalhati State Railway.

The financial results of this line since it was taken over and worked by Government are as follows:—

Year.	Miles open.	Gross earnings.	Expenditure.	Percentage of expenditure to earnings.	Financial Results	
					Net earnings.	Percentage on capital outlay.
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
1873	27¼	84,453	50,724	60	33,729	11·24
1874	27¼	85,122	57,220	67	27,902	10·22
1875	27¼	80,098	61,144	76	18,954	6·98
1876	27¼	75,199	83,585	114	—8,386	—3·08
1877	27¼	89,454	89,875	101	—421	—0·16
1878	27¼	90,261	71,677	79	18,584	6·46
1879-80	27¼	91,779	62,009	68	29,770	9·39
1880-81	27¼	67,314	69,699	104	—2,385	—0·69
1881-82	27¼	67,577	54,772	83	12,805	3·84
1882-83	27¼	74,498	50,259	67	24,239	7·34

The results for the year under review as compared with those of the two previous years are very favourable, the net earnings having risen to Rs. 24,239, showing a net gain over the interest payable by the Local Government for funds supplied by the Imperial Government of Rs. 10,937. This favourable result is due to a decrease in the working expenses, and to an improvement in the traffic, principally on account of the abolition of the Northern Bengal

State Railway steamer service to Rampore Beauleah. The traffic on this line is necessarily very uncertain, being, on account of its short length, affected by the local circumstances of the district traversed. On the completion of the Ranaghat-Bhugwangola section of the Bengal Central Railway the question will arise whether this line will not have to be abandoned, as the Azimgunge through traffic will probably follow that route, and the intermediate traffic is in itself unimportant. The capital outlay to the 31st March 1883 amounted to Rs. 3,30,015, the interest payable by the Bengal Government to the Imperial Government for funds supplied being Rs. 13,302. The earnings for the calendar year compare as follows with those of the previous year—Passenger, Rs. 46,013, against Rs. 46,132 in 1881; goods, Rs. 24,334, against Rs. 19,682; and miscellaneous, Rs. 1,327, against Rs. 1,191. The principal increase was in the goods traffic. The expenses having been reduced from Rs. 53,072 to Rs. 52,357, the net earnings have amounted to Rs. 19,317 as compared with Rs. 13,934 for the previous year.

The locomotive and traffic staff employed on the line are all natives, with the single exception of a Eurasian Locomotive Foreman.

Bengal Central Railway.

This railway, which has been taken up by a private Company, may be subdivided into three sections as follows:—(1) Ranaghat to Khulna, 82 miles; (2) Dum-Dum to Bongong, 43 miles; and (3) Ranaghat to Bhugwangola, 94 miles: a fourth section, Mymaree to Santipur, 24 miles, was also projected, but it is now probable that this portion will not be constructed for some time to come.

Ranaghat-Khulna section.—On the 16th October 1882, 21 miles of the line from Ranaghat to Bongong were opened to public traffic, and at the close of the year under review the rails were laid for 40 miles. With the exception of two gaps at major bridges, it is expected that the whole section will be ready for opening by the end of 1883.

Dum-Dum-Bongong section.—On the 31st March 1883 the rails had been laid for 20 miles, and this section should be ready for opening in the course of the current official year.

The Company have up to the present only undertaken the construction of the above sections, as the capital raised was insufficient for the whole project. It is understood that negotiations are now going on for the remainder.

Ranaghat-Bhugwangola section.—A grant of Rs. 1,00,000 was allotted by the Government of India for expenditure on this section during 1882-83, but the expenditure on preliminary expenses amounted to Rs. 12,545 only. The final location of the line up to the 45th mile was carried out by the Company's officers, but pending the decision of its construction by the Company the line was handed over to Government in April 1883, and a further grant of Rs. 1,00,000 having been allotted for expenditure during 1883-84, the earthwork as far as Krishnaghur was taken in hand.

The capital outlay up to the 31st March 1883 on the Ranaghat-Khulna and Dum-Dum-Bongong sections amounted to Rs. 54,64,923, the expenditure during the year under review having been Rs. 42,54,817. The length from Ranaghat to Bongong opened for public traffic in October 1882 was worked by the Eastern Bengal Railway, and the year's earnings to the 31st December 1882 amounted to Rs. 10,076, the working expenses having been Rs. 13,207, or a net loss to the Company of Rs. 3,131.

Dacca and Mymensing State Railway.

This Railway (metre gauge) is 86 miles in length, extending from Naraingunge on the Megna through Dacca to Mymensing. The estimated cost of the line as finally located is Rs. 76,83,733, or Rs. 89,742 per mile, but it is believed that this estimate can be considerably reduced, the amount provisionally sanctioned by the Secretary of State having been Rs. 72,00,000 (in round numbers). The works were commenced on or about the 1st December 1882, being given to Messrs. Mitchell & Co. on a schedule of rates-contract for the whole line. Fair progress with earthwork was made up to the 31st March 1883, and the expenditure on all heads up to the 31st December amounted to Rs. 1,70,703.

Chittagong and Chandpur Railway.

The survey and final location of a line from Chittagong to Chandpur on the Megna, with a branch (from Laksham) to Comillah, was carried out during the year under the

orders of the Engineer-in-Chief, Dacca and Mymensing State Railway, the total distance being 128 miles. Detailed plans and estimates are now under preparation.

Railway from Comillah to Sylhet, Cachar, and Assam.

The course of the last mentioned line joins at Comillah the survey line of the proposed railway northward to Cachar and Assam which was being carried out during the year under the Government of India. It is believed that a practicable route into Assam has been obtained. In this case, this line should become one of great importance as opening out direct communication between Chittagong and the districts of Cachar and Sylhet, as well as Assam proper.

Bengal and North-Western Railway.

This railway was being constructed as a State Railway under the Director-General of Railways up to the 31st December 1882, but the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company Limited having been formed towards the close of that year, the concession for the construction of the line was granted to it. The total length from Sonepur to Baraitch with the Nawabgunge branch is 287 miles, but of this some 82 miles only in the Sarun district are in territories under the control of the Government of Bengal. Earthwork in the Chapra and Sewan sub-divisions was commenced in November 1882 and February 1883 respectively, and by the 31st of March 1883 the work was well in hand throughout.

Bengal and Nagpur Railway.

The reconnaissance for this railway was completed last year, and a report thereon was submitted to the Government of India during the year. The project provides for a line of railway to connect the East Indian Railway at Sitarampur in Bengal with the Nagpur and Chattisgurh Railway at Bilaspur, the latter railway being now under construction. Three alternative routes were examined, and their relative cost and merit described in the reconnaissance report. The Government of India finally decided that the route from Sitarampur through Manbhoom, Singbhoom, the State of Bamra, and Gangpur, and of the Mahanadi valley should be adopted. The line will shorten the through route from Bombay to Calcutta by 129 miles, and will open up the northern parts of the Raipur, Bilaspur, and Sambalpur districts, the southern portions of Chota Nagpur and its feudatory states, the northern part of Singbhoom, and the district of Manbhoom.

Coal is found not far from Rajpur and near the crossing of the Mand river, and collieries already exist at Asontoria, where coal of very good quality is found. Copper is to be found in the hills near Chyebassa, a large wheat-producing area in Bilaspur, and Raipur will, it is believed, give a large and paying through traffic, and in the course of time a very fair local traffic may be expected, as the inhabitants of the district traversed appear to be in prosperous circumstances. The rough estimate for the line amounts to Rs. 2,90,15,780, the total length being 367 miles.

Benares Cuttack Railway.

The Government of India having ordered the reconnaissance for a railway to connect Benares with Cuttack, requested the Government of Bengal to arrange for the examination of the country between Ghurwa in the Lohardugga district and Cuttack. The main object of the project, it is understood, is to provide a direct route for pilgrims proceeding from the Upper Provinces to Cuttack and thence to Puri. The passenger traffic, it is believed, will be considerable, as the line traverses the Chota Nagpur plateau from north-west to south-east, and would thus afford an outlet to the traffic of the plateau to the North-Western Provinces and Orissa. The reconnaissance party reported that a practicable line may be made from Gurhwa to join the Bengal and Nagpur Railway at Chandil for Rs. 93,000 per mile, and from Chandil *viâ* Chyebassa to Cuttack for Rs. 1,15,800 per mile. The branch line from Gya joining the main line near Jechigunj would be 83 miles in length, costing Rs. 61,21,500, or Rs. 73,150 per mile. The total length of the two sections of the main line is 370 miles, and the total cost would be Rs. 4,19,52,000.

Deoghur Railway.

This line was under construction by a private Company from the 22nd March 1882, and the main line (4 miles), or portion between the East Indian Railway and Baidyanath (Deoghur), was opened for the carriage of passengers (locally) on the 26th December 1882, but through booking with other railways only came into

operation on the 1st January 1883. The Rohini branch, 1½ miles in length, was well advanced on the 31st March 1883.

The capital of the Company is Rs. 2,75,000, and on the 31st December 1882 the amount paid up was Rs. 2,46,700, whilst the contractors, who were constructing the railway for a lump sum, had been paid Rs. 2,45,372.

The revenue of the line up to the 31st December 1882 amounted to Rs. 293.

Tarakessur Railway.

The route from Bidyabatti on the East Indian Railway having been accepted as the most suitable for the proposed railway to Tarakessur, the right of constructing the line has been granted to a syndicate formed for the purpose. This syndicate will be eventually formed into a Company, to be domiciled in India, and is represented by Messrs. Hoare, Miller & Co. as agents. The terms of the agreement between the syndicate and the Secretary of State for India have already been approved by the Government of India, and include the handing over of the land required for the railway to the syndicate free of charge, but without any guarantee of interest on the capital expenditure on the railway.

The survey of the line to Tarakessur, together with the preparation of the necessary land plans and sections, was undertaken by the Government of Bengal, but the final estimates and drawings will be prepared by the agents. The land for the first 10 miles from Bidyabatti was handed over to the syndicate towards the close of the financial year, when the earthwork was immediately put in hand. The remainder of the land will be handed over as early as possible, and a commencement will then be made with the earthwork of the remaining 12 miles.

The construction of the line to Tarakessur has been estimated to cost Rs. 13,75,000, and the expenditure on survey and the acquisition of the land to the close of the financial year was Rs. 23,525.

Palamow Railway.

The terms of the concession required by Messrs. Burn & Co. for constructing and working this railway in connection with a coal-field in the sub-division of Palamow, district Lohardugga, having been approved by the Government of Bengal, were submitted to the Government of India for final sanction, as it was at first proposed to raise the required capital in the Indian market. After careful enquiry the promoters, Messrs. Burn & Co., were forced to the conclusion that this could not be done, and that it would be necessary to raise the capital in London, thus necessitating the opening of negotiations with the Secretary of State for India. The promoters, since the Benares-Cuttack line, above mentioned, has been determined on, have however, finally abandoned all idea of constructing the Baroon-Palamow Railway, and negotiations are at an end.

Kissengunge-Kotchandpur Railway.

The project for constructing a line of railway on a gauge of 2 feet 6 inches from the Kissengunge station in the Eastern Bengal Railway to Kotchandpur in Jessore, was taken up by certain wealthy and influential native gentlemen, and approved by the Government of India, and the formation of a Company to carry out the work was finally sanctioned. In consequence, however, of the inability of the promoters to obtain from the Eastern Bengal Railway Company an agreement for the use of their land and station at Kissengunge, and for the working of the new railway by that Company, the scheme fell through, and it is now proposed to offer the construction and working of this branch to the Bengal Central Railway Company. In the event of the offer being accepted, an alteration of the gauge to 5 feet 6 inches will probably be considered advisable.

The Burdwan and Cutwa Railway.

The Concessionaires, Messrs. Burn & Co., have reported that the attempt to raise the capital for the Burdwan-Cutwa Railway has not up to the present been successful; but that, with cheaper money and the adoption of a different method of floating the Company, they hope to bring the matter eventually to a successful issue. The reason of the failure is probably due to the fact that the natives of India are not willing to invest their money in railway enterprise; and if Messrs. Burn & Co.'s endeavours to float the Company in India do not prove more successful in the future, it will be necessary either to abandon the scheme *in toto*, or else endeavour to form a Company in England.

Sonthal Railway.

The concession of land asked for by Messrs. Burn & Co. in connection with the proposed railway on the 2 feet 6 inches gauge—from Bhagulpore to Bowsee *viâ* the Nya Doomka road—has not as yet been granted by Government, as the matter is still under consideration. Messrs. Burn & Co. reported in January 1883 that they had taken no steps towards raising the required capital, being desirous of first ascertaining how far the endeavours they were then making to obtain the capital for the Burdwan-Cutwa Railway would prove successful.

Behar Railway.

An address was presented by the zemindars and Municipal Commissioners of the Behar sub-division to the Lieutenant-Governor in December 1882, praying that railway communication might be established either between Behar and Bukhtiarpore on the East Indian Railway, or between Behar and Jehanabad on the Patna and Gya State Railway. This scheme was unfavourably reported upon in 1881 when first proposed, and no action up to the present has been taken in the matter, as no officer could be spared during the year to make the necessary surveys and estimates. If possible, however, this will be done during the ensuing cold season.

Khairabad Branch Railway.

In the event of the Alipore Coal Company, Limited, being willing to enter into an agreement in accordance with section 24 of Act X of 1870 (Land Acquisition Act), the Government of Bengal has consented to allow the land required for the projected railway to be taken up by its own officers under the provisions of Part VII of the Act, and have accordingly requested Messrs. Bird & Co., the managing agents, to prepare a draft agreement for consideration and approval, and to supply the information required for the issue of the necessary notification permitting the survey of the land.

RAILWAYS UNDER THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT, AND GUARANTEED RAILWAYS.

East Indian Railway.

The total length of line, including the Jubbulpore extension, on which rates and fares are calculated by the East Indian Railway Company is 1,507 miles, and shows no increase on the length reported last year, but the double length for the year under review is 469½ miles, or 59 miles more than at the close of 1881. The total length of single track, including sidings, has been increased during the year from 2,250 to 2,319 miles, and the capital expenditure during 1882 has amounted to £108,016.

Construction.

The following are the principal works of construction completed during the year:—

(*a*) Additional goods-sheds and sidings, Cawnpur city branch.
(*b*) Ditto rail-bearings in Dinapore, Allahabad, and Delhi districts.
(*c*) Ditto flood openings near Arrah.
(*d*) Extra sidings for marshalling trains at Tundla.
(*e*) Extension of engine-shed at Asansol.
(*f*) Reservoir at Bargarh station.
(*g*) Ditto Markundi.

And the principal works in progress at the end of the year were—

Ballast and Permanent-Way—

Additional sidings in Howrah.
Coal sidings and wharf at Barakar.
Additional sleepering in Dinapore, Allahabad, and Delhi districts.
Extension of branch line at Mokameh.
Doubling the line between Buxar and Moghal Sarai.
Watering and passing train station at Busha Nullah.
Ditto ditto between Katni and Sleemanabad.

Stations and Buildings—

Branch line from Bhadreswar station to the river side.
River wall and reclamation of foreshore at Howrah.
Long river-side shed for inwards goods at Howrah.
Excavating boat dock at Howrah.
Extension of pontoon landing stage at Howrah.
Extension of carriage shops eastward at Howrah.
Laying additional lines in carriage and waggon shops at Howrah.
Coal wharf and sidings at Barakar.

Hooghly Bridge.

The design for this bridge was settled in England by Mr. Bradford Leslie in conjunction with Mr. A. M. Rendel. It is to consist of a central double cantilever girder 320 feet long, resting on two piers placed 120 feet apart, centre to centre, in the middle of the channel; of two main girders, each 440 feet in length, on each side of the central cantilever girder, one end rests upon the latter and the other upon the shore abutment. Two masonry viaducts, each 450 feet in length, extend inland from each shore abutment. The total length of the bridge will thus be 2,100 feet, of which the middle portion between the two shore abutments, 1,200 feet, less 50 feet of central piers, or 1,150 feet, will span the waterway of the main channel. The estimated cost of construction, Rs. 35,37,305, was sanctioned on the 7th December 1882.

The approach to the bridge from the Eastern Bengal Railway at Naihati station to the east end of the bridge will be on a curve of 3,824 feet radius and 1¾ miles in length, with a rising gradient of 1 in 300. The approach from the East Indian Railway at Hooghly station to the west end of the bridge will be 2 miles in length, with a rising gradient of 1 in 444. The cost of these approaches is not included in the above estimate.

Maintenance.

The way and works were maintained in an efficient manner throughout the line, except in the Dinapore district. The progress in relaying the line with steel rails was greatly retarded during the first six months of the year for the want of fish-plates and bolts and nuts, the rails having been sent out without these fastenings. The work was, however, pushed on during the last six months, and at the close of the year 43·74 miles of the single line between Moghal Sarai and Allahabad and 20·58 miles of the Chord Line had thus been relaid. Fair progress was also made in strengthening the road with additional rail bearings, and at the close of the year 169·75 miles of road, principally in the Dinapore and Allahabad districts, had been laid with an additional sleeper per pair of rails, and 57·19 miles, principally in the Delhi district, with additional chocks.

The cost of maintenance per mile per month was Rs. 364, against Rs. 241 in 1881, and the number of wooden and iron sleepers renewed during the year was 296,391 and 213,237 respectively, against 250,086 of the former and 103,203 of the latter description in the previous year. The length of steel rails renewed was 74½ miles, against 37 miles, and that of wrought iron rails 39 miles, against 33 miles.

Locomotive Department.

Fifty-four new engines were constructed and put on the line during the year. Of these, forty-four were received from England and ten were built in the Railway workshops, chiefly from duplicate pieces in stock.

The Locomotive stock and workshop machinery has been maintained in good working order. The number of engines at the end of the year was 563 viz. 7 tank, 78 passenger, and 478 goods engines.

The native drivers and shunters continue to work satisfactorily. There are now 125 native drivers, 125 native shunters, and 806 native firemen—total 1,056—working on running engines.

The employment of natives as drivers and shunters has now been tried for eight years, and the results are economical. A saving of Rs. 25,70,18 has been effected during this period in salaries and overtime allowances by employing natives instead of Europeans.

Collieries.

The Kurhurballi and Serampore coal mines yielded—

					Tons.
In 1881	...	...	...	...	278,500
„ 1882	...	...	...	...	281,656
			Increase	...	3,156

The rolling-stock and workshop machinery have been efficiently maintained.

Carriage and Wagon Department.

The number of vehicles at the end of the year was 9,938, viz. 1,209 coaching and 8,729 goods vehicles.

The following new vehicles were constructed and put on the line during the year:—100 third-class carriages, completing the second hundred additional carriages of this class sanctioned for construction to meet the anticipated increase of traffic consequent on the reduction of the third-class fares, 618 iron-covered goods wagons, completing the second thousand additional iron wagons sanctioned for construction, 30 break-vans, completing the total number sanctioned, and 18 combined post-office vans and third-class carriages.

The lines of telegraph have been efficiently maintained, except on the loop line, where interruptions occurred in renewing and shifting the telegraph from one side of the railway to the other.

Telegraph.

Accidents.

The more serious accidents during the year were—

On the 17th January the up mail came into collision with No. 17 up goods train near Shikoabad. The damage to rolling-stock and permanent-way was considerable; 13 native passengers died from the effects of wounds and 15 others received injuries. The guard of the goods train was also injured. The driver of the mail train was prosecuted, but acquitted.

On the 28th of March another collision occurred at the same station between No. 4 down passenger and No. 17 up goods train. No life was lost, and the damage to stock was slight. The jemadar, to whose negligence the accident was due, was sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment.

On the 20th April the down mail train ran off the line between Behea and Arrah. Two or three passengers received slight injuries, and twelve vehicles and the engine and tender left the rails, causing serious damage to stock.

On the 11th August the up mail train ran off the line at mile 225½, between Amultala and Nawadi stations. The whole of the vehicles, with the exception of the engine, were derailed. Some of the derailed vehicles, which had fouled the down line, were immediately after run into by No. 22 down goods train before it could be pulled up. No one was hurt with the exception of a railway peon, who was somewhat slow in getting out of a third-class carriage and had his foot injured during the collision. The accident is supposed to have occurred through heavy rain undermining the road, and causing the line, or one of the sleepers, to sink, carrying the rail with it.

On the 29th August No. 12 down goods train ran off the line at mile 313 between Bukhtearpur and Futwah stations. Twenty wagons were derailed. The guard of the train only was hurt. The accident was probably caused by the defective state of the line. The down track was being repaired at the spot, as only half ballasted, and the sleepers were exposed, and not boxed up.

The accidents to life and limb during the year were as follows:—

				Fatal.	Not fatal.
Passengers	...	...	...	22	43
Railway servants		...	...	17	52
Contractors and ballast coolies		...	...	14	35
Policemen	...	...	...	*Nil*	2
Trespassers and others	...	...	...	40	11
		Total	...	93	143

Of the passengers killed, seven met their death in getting into and out of trains in motion, one by falling out of a running train, one whilst attempting to cross the line, and thirteen in a collision. Of the forty fatal cases classed under trespassers, fifteen are reported to have been suicides.

Earnings and expenditure.

The total earnings, exclusive of the flotilla receipts, amounted to Rs. 4,70,88,374, and the total expenditure to Rs. 1,73,77,162, the net earnings for the year being Rs. 2,97,11,212, against a surplus revenue of Rs. 3,09,44,843 in 1881, or a decrease of Rs. 12,33,631. The following is a comparison of the passenger traffic, and the receipts therefrom, during the years 1881 and 1882:—1881, passengers 8,969,162, receipts Rs. 1,06,22,905; 1882, passengers 10,437,348, receipts Rs. 1,16,66,598. The result is an increase of 1,468,186 in the number of passengers carried during the year under review and of Rs. 10,43,693 in the earnings. Of the number of passengers carried, 9,627,596, or 92·24 per cent., belonged to the third class.

Under the orders of the Government of India, the third-class fare was reduced, as an experimental measure, from 3 to 2½ pies per mile. The reduced fare was introduced on the upper section of the line above Naini Junction from the 1st January 1882, and on the lower section of the line from the 1st July 1882. The actual result of this reduction, excluding all increase due to abnormal causes, has been a nominal increase in the receipts of Rs. 58,326; but this increase, though absolute, bears no proportion to the increase in the numbers carried at the reduced rate.

The reduction in fares has no doubt been a boon to numbers of the poorer classes of natives, but it is too soon yet to judge of its effects on the earnings of the line. The receipts from the passenger traffic are largely affected by the average distance travelled by passengers of each class; but the reduction in the third-class fare has not been followed by an increase in the average distance travelled by passengers of this class. For more than half the number of native passengers this does not exceed 30 miles.

The total weight of goods carried during 1882 was 4,383,652 tons, against 3,826,964 in 1881; the increase in the receipts from this source amounted to Rs. 5,80,288. The traffic shows a steady increase in every branch, although not exempt from fluctuations during the year.

In spite of the break of gauge on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, the natural advantages of Bombay over Calcutta are so great with regard to certain staples of traffic, that the tide of trade is certainly being diverted to the westward. On the other hand, Calcutta has undoubtedly great advantages as regards other staples, such as jute, indigo, rice, silk, and tea, the trade in which is not likely to be interfered with by the rivalry of Bombay.

The principal articles of goods traffic received at Howrah and Calcutta were coal (454,795 tons), cotton and twist (35,289 tons), grain and pulse (344,973 tons), hides and horns (19,702 tons), indigo (5,842 tons), saltpetre (25,291 tons), seeds (297,625 tons), and opium (4,932 tons). The increase were for the most part in coal, saltpetre, and seeds, but there was a falling off in the wheat traffic. The chief commodities forwarded from the above station were copper (6,875 tons), gunny (17,881 tons), iron (52,754 tons), piece goods (49,616 tons), and salt (120,923 tons). A decrease of 2,221 tons recorded in sugar.

At Jubbulpore station 1,075 tons of grains and pulses and 3,944 tons of sugar were received, but there was a very large falling off in the coal traffic, a decrease of 18,209 tons being shown in the year's returns. The goods despatched from Jubbulpore have decreased by 7,220 tons in 1882, of which 1,537 tons were in grains and pulses and 5,201 in miscellaneous and railway materials.

Working expenses.

The gross expenditure exceeded that of 1881 by Rs. 29,41,922, or 20 per cent., the excess being chiefly due to extensive renewals of permanent-way throughout the line, and to the large number of engines replaced during the year.

Steamer traffic.

The steamer traffic earnings amounted to Rs. 29,220, against which a sum of Rs. 27,921 has been shown as working expenses, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,299 as profit during the year, or a decrease of Rs. 2,168 on the net earnings of the past year.

Staff.

The staff employed on the line consisted of 1,532 Europeans and Eurasians and 54,752 natives.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

The length of this line on which rates and fares are charged is 159·64 miles of single road. The total length, including sidings, is 201·69 miles. The total capital expenditure up to the end of the year was Rs. 3,32,13,066, excluding steam-boat expenditure, Rs. 13,82,327, which gives an expenditure per mile of Rs. 2,08,050 upon the running or train length (159·64 miles).

The branch line from Ranaghat to Bongong (20 miles) of the Bengal Central Railway was opened for public traffic on the 16th October 1882, and is worked by the Eastern Bengal Railway Company.

During the year—

	Rs.
The capital expenditure, including steam-boat expenses, amounted to	53,977
The credits to capital	1,08,674
Balance against capital expenditure ...	— 54,697

Construction.

There were no works of any engineering importance completed during the year. The new inland diversion of the line between mile 147 and Goalundo, rendered necessary by the rapid encroachment of the River Ganges, was completed in time to allow of public trains being run over it before the main line was breached in August. A siding was laid down at Ranaghat to form a junction with the Bengal Central Railway, and a through line was laid down at Chitpore to join the Port Commissioners' Tramway.

Maintenance.

The relaying of the line between Sealdah and Barrackpore with steel rails, a distance of 14 miles, has been completed, and arrangements have been made for relaying with steel rails a further length of 9 miles between Barrackpore and Naihati. The cost of maintenance per mile per month was Rs. 222, against Rs. ·176 in 1881.

The Damookdea branch of the Northern Bengal State Railway was maintained by the Company in fair order.

Locomotive Department.

Thirteen locomotive engines were thoroughly repaired, and the workshop machinery was kept in good order.

Carriage and Wagon Department.

During the year 3 vehicles have been converted, 121 have been rebuilt, 251 have been heavily repaired, and 2,255 slightly repaired.

Steam Boat Department.

The steamer *Prince Alfred* was docked in Calcutta, overhauled, and provided with new high-pressure cylinders. The steamers *Lukhia* and *Surma* have had their hulls rengthened to withstand the great vibration of the engines, and the boilers the steamer *Douglas* have been renewed. Flat No. 2 was docked and overauled, and all the defective plates and floors were cut out and renewed. The nall steamer *Wallace* was sold on the 7th June to the Assam Railway and rading Company. The Serajgunge steamer service ceased on the 31st December 1881, and was undertaken from the 1st January 1882 by the India eneral Steam Navigation Company, which at first worked it with the steamer *rince of Wales* and three flats, Nos. 3, 5, and 8, belonging to the Eastern Bengal ailway Company. The former offered to purchase the vessels, but the rgain was not concluded, as it was thought that these vessels could be usefully nployed on the Cachar service.

Accidents.

The only accident during the year calling for notice was the derailment of ten wagons of a goods train, attributed to both journals of the leading axle being bent.

In this place may be mentioned the encroachment of the river Ganges Goalundo. The river, as had been anticipated, made a set upon the ht bank above Goalundo, and finally breached the railway on the 12th gust. By the 16th August a gap of over a mile in length had been med. The permanent-way had been shifted to the alternative embankmt, which had been thrown up time, and, with the exception of some

small girders, which fell into the river, no loss was sustained. It was afterwards found necessary to pull down and remove the buildings and staff quarters at the station, and to form a new station as well as a new depôt for steamers.

Earnings and expenditure.

The total earnings of the line, exclusive of the revenue derived from the flotilla, amounted to Rs. 56,23,007, against which there was an expenditure of Rs. 21,75,584, leaving a net balance of Rs. 34,47,423, which represents a profit of 10·2 per cent. on the capital expended to the close of the year under review. The total number of passengers carried during the year was 2,414,200, against 2,369,569 in 1881, and the receipts amounted to Rs. 13,85,053, against Rs. 14,73,684 in the previous year, or a decrease of Rs. 88,631. Of the total number of passengers, 1,910,100 were of the fourth class; the percentage to the entire passenger traffic being 79·12. The increase in this class is recorded as 99,461, but a decrease of 61,309 is shown in the third-class traffic.

The total weight of goods conveyed over the line was 587,289 tons, or an increase of 76,478 tons over the traffic of 1881, and the receipts from this source amounted to Rs. 39,71,793, which exceeded the receipts of the previous year by Rs. 5,31,587.

Among the chief commodities received at Sealdah and Chitpore stations were, coal (30,040 tons), dall, grains, and pulses (10,252 tons), gunny-bags (13,975 tons), jute (237,778 tons), rice (35,000 tons), tobacco (10,691 tons). An increase of 41,021 tons of jute and of 5,635 tons of gunny-bags is recorded; but the traffic in coal, grains, and rice seems to have fallen slightly. Of the articles forwarded from the above stations, salt seems to have increased by 4,344 tons during 1882.

Working expenses.

The gross expenditure was more than that of 1881 by Rs. 1,54,528, or 6·62 per cent.

Steamer traffic.

The earnings and expenses in 1882 were respectively Rs. 5,02,718 and Rs. 3,11,704, the profits being Rs. 1,91,014, which fall short of the profits of 1881 by Rs. 67,039.

Staff.

During the year under review 248 Europeans and Eurasians and 7,007 natives were employed on the line.

Telegraph and Post Offices.

TELEGRAPHS.

It was stated in last year's report that measures were then being taken to substitute telegraphic for telephone lines between Nattore and Rampore Beauleah, and between Sultanpore and Serajgunge. These lines were completed during the year under review, and a third class telegraph station has since been opened at Bogra in connection with the latter line.

The proposal to construct a line between Azimgunge and Berhampore was abandoned, as the necessary guarantee could not be obtained, as also the line from Goalundo to Jallacatty, for which a line from Khulna to Barrisal has been substituted. This line is still under construction, and is expected to be completed by the end of March next.

POST-OFFICES.

The following additions to the work of the Postal Department were made during the year:—(1) Savings Banks, (2) postal notes, and (3) extension of the value-payable system to registered letters. The Savings Bank has proved a success. It was not extended in the first instance to the post-office in Calcutta or Howrah, with the view of interfering as little as possible with Presidency banks; but this prohibition has been removed since the close of the year. The sale of postal notes, which are divided into three classes of the value of Rs. 2-8, Re. 1 and 8 annas respectively, was introduced in January 1883. The system affords the public an easy and cheap means of remitting small sums of money, the commission charged on the three classes of notes being only one anna, half an anna and one-quarter of an anna respectively, while that on the lowest money-order is two annas. The return of sales during the quarter of the year in which the system was in force, however, shows that it had not as yet made much advance in popular favour. The extension of the value-payable system to registered letters was introduced in October 1882, and during the remainder of the year 264 value-payable registered letters were delivered in these provinces. The system is so great a convenience to the public, and particularly to tradesmen, that it is likely to be popular.

The statement below shows the number of imperial post-offices, letter-boxes, village postmen, and letter-box peons which existed on the 31st March 1883, as compared with the number existing on the 31st March 1882:—

CIRCLE.	Year.	Post-offices.	Letter-boxes.	Village postmen.	Letter-box peons.
... ...	1881-82	858	2,493	778	180
	1882-83	907	2,667	866	172
... ...	1881-82	278	354	474	22
	1882-83	309	364	541	24
l ...	1881-82	(a) 160	310	(b) 170	(c) 18
	1882-83	223	481	205	18
l ...	1881-82	1,296	3,157	1,422	220
	1882-83	1,439	3,512	1,612	214

hese are the correct figures, instead of those shown in the report for 1881-82, viz. under (a) 151,

an increase of 143 post-offices, 355 letter-boxes, and 190 and a decrease of 6 letter-box peons. This compares favour- ear 1881-82, when there was an increase of 114 post-offices,